The Universal Prayer

Sunday 12th January 2025

Baptism of the Lord

Year C

Celebrant: Brothers and sisters, as we celebrate the baptism of Jesus

 we seek the grace of a deeper commitment to him

 as we share this Holy Year, a Jubilee of Hope.

1. For Pope Francis, leading us in this Holy Year, a Jubilee of Hope,

that he will be a voice to open hearts to a time of grace,

reconciliation, forgiveness and peace.

Let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, hear our prayer.**

2 For the prayer intention of Pope Francis for January,

 that migrants, refugees and those affected by war and their right to an

 education, which is necessary to build a better world, might always be

 respected.

Let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, hear our prayer.**

3 For every Catholic in this Jubilee of Hope,

 that reverencing Jesus as the Lamb of God,

 they will recapture the grace of their baptism

 and live in his Spirit for the good of others.

Let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, hear our prayer.**

 3 For everyone involved in the Middle East peace negotiations,

 that a ceasefire will become a reality in the Holy Land,

 hostages be released, prisoners freed, and hope be rekindled

 in broken hearts.

 Let us pray to the Lord.

 **Lord, hear our prayer.**

1. For all who live in fear or with mistrust,

 those burdened by poverty and homelessness,

 that they will receive God’s grace and peace

 in order to live in hope.

 Let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, hear our prayer.**

1. For all persecuted for their Christian faith,

 that we will stand by them in prayer,

 and pray that their union with Jesus in baptism

 will be a source of hope.

 Let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, hear our prayer.**

1. For

 Let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, hear our prayer.**

1. For all baptised in our parish and community

 and have passed through death,

 that what they hoped for in faith

 will be reality for them now and always.

We also remember . . .

Let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, hear our prayer.**

Celebrant: Father,

 with your Son, Jesus,

 we surrender ourselves to you

 so that by living your will,

 we bring glory to your name

 and mercy to your people.

 Through Christ our Lord.

The Universal Prayer

Monday 13th January 2025

St Hilary of Poitiers

First Week in Ordinary Time (Year 1)

Celebrant: The call by Jesus to the fishermen to follow him

 is repeated in every generation

 through the gift of baptism.

1. May Pope Francis be granted steady health as he leads the Church

through this intense Holy Year, this Jubilee of Hope

Let us pray to the Lord.

1. May we, who have been baptised into Christ,

follow him with a dynamic, lively faith as did the fishermen.

Let us pray to the Lord.

1. May those who struggle with the faith of their baptism

come to peace of heart through which they

have a better understanding of Jesus and his call.

Let us pray to the Lord.

1. May children enjoy time with their families

during these school holidays,

contributing to their maturity and wisdom.

Let us pray to the Lord.

1. May St Hilary, who came to faith through reading the Scriptures,

and defended the divinity of Jesus and the truth of the Holy Trinity,

inspire us in our Christian beliefs.

Let us pray to the Lord.

1. May peace prevail across the Holy Land and in Ukraine.

Let us pray to the Lord.

Celebrant: Heavenly God, we offer this sacrifice with thanksgiving

knowing that all we are and have

comes from your loving heart.

Through Christ our Lord.

**The Universal Prayer**

**Tuesday 14th January 2025**

First Week in Ordinary Time

Celebrant: My friends, today we meet Jesus, who through his word

 enlightened the people and overcame the forces of evil.

1. That all people may be sanctified through Jesus Christ,

the Sanctified One, who died and rose for the

salvation of the world.

Let us pray to the Lord.

1. That every effort will be made to assist the people of Gaza and the

Occupied West Bank in the Holy Land by providing food, shelter,

medical care and education for children and adolescents.

Let us pray to the Lord.

1. That children and our youth on holidays may find this a time to

strengthen their family relationships as well as their friendships.

Let us pray to the Lord.

1. That this Holy Year will bring to the distressed and discouraged the grace to live again in hope.

Let us pray to the Lord.

1. That youth and young adults will grow in the grace of the Jubilee Year

with open hearts, devout in prayer and full of charity toward others,

especially the poor and lonely.

Let us pray to the Lord.

Celebrant: Eternal King,

our hearts rejoice in you

for you are the source of life,

and you will raise the dead to a glorious resurrection.

Through Christ our Lord.

#### **The Universal Prayer**

#### **Wednesday 15th January 2025**

# **First Week in Ordinary Time**

Celebrant: My friends, on this day in 1842 Mary MacKillop was born in Melbourne, and in 1929, Martin Luther King Jr was born in Atlanta.

1. That the commitment which St Mary of the Cross and Martin Luther King Jr made to the liberate the oppressed of their time may continue to be strong in the life of the Church today.

Let us pray to the Lord.

1. That we, like St Mary of the Cross and Martin Luther King Jr may believe the truth that good will always overcome evil,

for Jesus conquered sin and death through his Cross.

Let us pray to the Lord.

1. That we may find in the humanity of Jesus, who shared our sufferings,

a great consolation, so that those who struggle will come to accept

their own sufferings with renewed trust.

Let us pray to the Lord.

1. That teachers may find during the holidays the space to

nourish their creative energies and human knowledge,

and be personally refreshed for the good of their students.

Let us pray to the Lord.

1. That the violent fanaticism of terrorists around the world be tempered this year, so that they seek to dialogue with their perceived enemies for the good of all.

Let us pray to the Lord.

1. That the killings will cease across the Holy Land and its neighbours, and also in Ukraine and Russia, so that people have a new opportunity to live in peace.

Let us pray to the Lord.

Celebrant: Lord God, we place our trust in you,

 and dedicate ourselves through this Eucharist

 to living your holy will in our daily lives.

 Through Christ our Lord.

**The Universal Prayer**

**Thursday 16th January 2015**

First Week in Ordinary Time

Celebrant: My friends, we are warned today not to harden our hearts,

 but to be open to God’s liberating grace.

1. That no-one in our community will have a wicked mind.

Let us pray to the Lord.

1. That no-one in our community will fall into unbelief and so turn away

from God.

Let us pray to the Lord.

1. That everyone in our community will encourage each other to avoid sin and live grace-filled lives.

Let us pray to the Lord.

1. That everyone in our community will feel tenderness for our sick members.

Let us pray to the Lord.

1. That everyone in our community, who has good health, will value God’s blessings and give joyful thanks.

Let us pray to the Lord.

1. That everyone in our community will pray unceasingly for peace in the Holy Land.

Let us pray to the Lord.

Celebrant: Lord our God,

 do not abandon the poor of our time,

 but grace all people with the commitment to justice

 which will ensure dignity for everyone.

 Through Christ our Lord.

**The Universal Prayer**

**Friday 17th January 2025**

**St Anthony of Egypt**

**First Week in Ordinary Time**

Celebrant: Sisters and brothers, Jesus came among us in order that all humanity could experience the forgiving love of God.

1. For Pope Francis in his intention for this month

that every child and adolescent will receive the opportunity of education.

Let us pray to the Lord.

 3. For those who carry the burden of sin

that they may receive the merciful forgiveness of God.

Let us pray to the Lord.

 4. For a spirit of wonder and awe every time we see God at work

in people’s lives.

Let us pray to the Lord.

1. For those whose work is hard, difficult or dirty,

that their contribution to the common good

may not be taken for granted, but appreciated with gratitude.

Let us pray to the Lord.

1. For those placed under the patronage of St Antony of Egypt: people with

skin diseases, those who weave baskets and those who care for domestic pets will rejoice in God’s gifts.

Let us pray to the Lord.

Celebrant: Lord our God, give us the faith to walk in the light of your Face, so that by living with justice

 we may rejoice in your holy Name.

 Through Christ our Lord.

**The Universal Prayer**

#### **Saturday 18th January 2025**

First Week of Ordinary Time

Celebrant: Dear friends, Jesus was born as Saviour of the world,

 and in his ministry extended to people

 the blessing of the Father’s merciful love.

1. That we will always approach the throne of Grace with trust and

thanksgiving.

Let us pray to the Lord.

1. That we will receive the Word of God deep in our hearts and allow it

to judge our secret emotions and thoughts with mercy.

Let us pray to the Lord.

1. That as the world feels its human weakness in the face of so many terrible wars and the effects of natural disasters and hunger, we will pray earnestly for peace and justice, mercy and reconciliation.

Let us pray to the Lord.

1. That people will learn to trust in Jesus who carried our weaknesses,

and find his mercy and grace and healing in their time of need.

Let us pray to the Lord.

1. That we, in this Jubilee of Hope, may rejoice in the way God calls people to leave the ways of sin and so follow confidently the path set out by Jesus Christ.

Let us pray to the Lord.

1. That we may not give up on praying for the gift of faith and hope

for those who appear to live ungodly lives, since God loves all people.

Let us pray to the Lord.

Celebrant: Hear our prayer, almighty God,

 for we bring our hopes and needs to you.

 Through Christ our Lord.