**The Universal Prayer**

**Sunday 2nd March 2025**

**Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

Celebrant: Sisters and brothers.

we join with Catholics around the world

praying for Pope Francis with hearts of hope.

1. For Pope Francis in his time of need,

that with patience and hope

he will embrace the will of God.

Lord, hear us.

**Lord, hear our prayer.**

1. For the Church around the world,

that all will feel united in prayer

at this time with love for Pope Francis.

Lord, hear us.

**Lord, hear our prayer.**

1. For the renewal of the ceasefire in Gaza

and an end to the violence now engulfing the

Occupied West Bank.

Lord, hear us.

**Lord, hear our prayer.**

1. For justice for the people of Ukraine

and an end to war between Ukraine and Russia,

that peace will come to all.

Lord, hear us.

**Lord, hear our prayer.**

1. For young people on this World Teen Mental Health Day,

that societies will offer them hope through

addressing their needs and fears by generating trust in God.

Lord, hear us.

**Lord, hear our prayer.**

Australia

6 For Australian Catholics this Lent,

that through Project Compassion they will

live its theme, “United Against Poverty”,

through prayer, sacrifice and giving.

Lord, hear us.

**Lord, hear our prayer.**

7 For all who have died in Palestine and Israel,

 Ukraine and Russia

 and the Democratic Republic of the Congo,

remembering Bishop Lawrence Shield, third Bishop of Adelaide, along with

Lord, hear us.

**Lord, hear our prayer.**

Celebrant: Lord God, by the grace of your Son

 give us hearts that are pure and sincere,

 open to your will and guidance,

 filled with hope as we pray for all in need.

 Through Christ our Lord.

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**The Universal Prayer**

**Monday 3nd March 2023**

**Eighth Week in Ordinary Time**

Celebrant: The call to follow Jesus Christ in the midst of the world

always carries a cost which demands sacrifice and commitment.

1. May Pope Francis be sustained by God’s grace,

and with hope seek the peace of Christ.

Lord, hear us.

1. May the Church be united in sincere prayer,

gathered in spirit around the Holy Father.

Lord, hear us.

1. May we who have been baptised

be strengthened through this Eucharist

to be faithful and loving in our response.

Lord, hear us.

1. May we who believe without seeing

be filled with that joy which is promised,

a joy which cannot be described.

Lord, hear us.

1. May this World Birth Defects Day stimulate respect for infants,

World Wildlife Day encourage protection of the environment,

World Hearing Day support those with this difficulty

and World Writers’ Day generate thanksgiving for their craft.

Lord, hear us.

Celebrant: Father, may everything we say

 bring glory to your Name

 and be a source of blessing and encouragement

 for our sisters and brothers.

 Through Christ our Lord.

**The Universal Prayer**

**Tuesday 4th March 2025**

**St Casimir**

**Eighth Week in Ordinary Time**

Celebrant: My friends, God is never outdone in generosity

 for Jesus has promised blessings a hundred times over

 for those who follow him faithfully.

1. That the Church may pray as one as we entrust Pope Francis

to the God’s healing and hope-filled mercy.

Lord, hear us.

1. That every Christian may value the opportunity

to serve others in the name, and after the example of Jesus.

Lord, hear us.

1. That each of us may follow the advice of St Peter

and make a habit of obedience and be holy in all we do.

Let us pray to the Lord.

1. That St Casimir will watch over Lithuania and Poland, entrusted to

his care, and the Lithuanian Community in the Archdiocese

find in his faith and courage great inspiration.

Lord, hear us.

1. That Palestine and Israel, Ukraine and Russia will receive support from other nations so that they can negotiate for peace with justice,

for hope with prayer.

Lord, hear us.

Celebrant: Eternal God, bless us with your truth and love

 so that we can be faithful in our following Jesus Christ

 who is Lord, for ever and ever.

**The Universal Prayer**

**Wednesday 5th March 2025**

**Ash Wednesday**

Celebrant: At the start of Lent let us be guided by Pope Francis,

 who in this Jubilee Year desires that “we celebrate this Lent with more intensity as a privileged moment to celebrate and experience God’s mercy.”

1. May Pope Francis, in this time of his great need, receive an outpouring of God’s mercy to sustain and comfort him.

Lord, have mercy.

1. May we grasp this “privileged moment” of Lent and by our

prayer, fasting and sacrifices open our hearts to the gift of Hope.

Lord, have mercy.

1. May all who are weighed down with worry, fearful of the future,

discouraged by the state of the world, receive the grace to celebrate

God’s mercy as the source of hope.

Lord, have mercy.

4. May our giving in charity to others through Project Compassion come from a deep sense of justice towards those in need, and be a true sign of mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

5 May all who follow Christ be ambassadors of his forgiveness

so that all can experience God’s salvation.

Lord, have mercy**.**

6 May God’s mercy flood Palestine and Israel, Ukraine and Russia,

 the Democratic Republic of Congo, Sudan and Myanmar and bring

 the people peace and hope.

 Lord, have mercy.

Celebrant: Heavenly Father, have mercy upon us in your kindness

 and help us to grow in the image of Jesus Christ

 who is Lord, now and forever.

**The Universal Prayer**

**Thursday 6th March 2025**

**Thursday after Ash Wednesday**

Celebrant: Sisters and brothers, with the help of God

 we pray that we may choose life and blessings.

1. We pray for Pope Francis in his time of need, and for those

caring for him that God’s grace will sustain them all.

Lord, have mercy.

1. We pray for every Christian during this season of Lent,

that by being converted back to Christ and choose his life.

Lord, have mercy.

1. We pray for each other, that during this time of Lent

we may follow Jesus with trust and hope.

Lord, have mercy.

1. We pray for those who, driven by ambition and greed, that they may recognize their spiritual needs and so find their way to Christ.

Lord, have mercy.

1. We pray for dentists and their assistants on this World Dentist Day,

and also for people deprived of the help of dentists because of war,

violence and poverty.

 Lord, have mercy.

Celebrant: Lord our God, steer us away from the company of sinners, strengthen our ties within this community of faith, and help us all to grow in the love of Christ,

 who is Lord, for ever and ever.

**The Universal Prayer**

**Friday 4th March 2022**

**Autumn Ember Day**

**Collect: Sts Perpetua and Felicity**

**Friday after Ash Wednesday**

Celebrant: Sisters and brothers, we pray that we may understand the true spirit of fasting and penance so that we can draw closer to Jesus Christ and his people.

1. We surround Pope Francis with our prayer this day that he may be sustained in hope and peace.

Lord, have mercy.

1. We pray for a commitment to fasting and penance which brings a holy discipline into our lives and, as we observe this Autumn Ember Day,

to seek God’s blessing on our crops and human labour.

 Lord, have mercy.

1. We pray on this World Day of Prayer, which gathers Christians

together in prayer in every place around the world today, that this

Jubilee Year of Hope will fill them with confidence in Christ.

Lord, have mercy.

1. We pray today that Saints Perpetua and Felicity, mothers and martyrs

of North Africa, will intercede for mothers across Africa who live in

the poverty of war, violence and hunger.

Lord, have mercy.

1. We pray that God will not forget the cries for peace in Palestine and Israel, Ukraine and Russia.

Lord, have mercy.

Celebrant: Lord our God,

 have compassion on us,

 accept this sacrifice of love

 and help us grow in Christ

 who is Lord, for ever and ever.

**The Universal Prayer**

**Saturday 8th March 2025**

**Collect: St John of God**

**Saturday after Ash Wednesday**

Celebrant: Dear friends, Jesus came into our world

 for each of us, and for all people,

 so that we who are burdened with sin

 may know the grace of his mercy.

1. That Pope Francis, struggling with his health in hospital will

be consoled by the prayer and affection of the Church.

Lord, have mercy.

1. That this International Women’s Day will encourage women to “march forward” in this Holy Year of Hope, remembering women

who live in the midst of war and poverty, violence and hunger.

Lord, have mercy.

1. That our hearts may be centred upon Jesus Christ as was the heart of St Matthew, who left all things and followed him, even to a martyr’s death.

Lord, have mercy.

1. That all people of every nation and religion may learn to do away with the clenched fist, and the wicked word, so that they can feed the hungry and help the oppressed. Lord, have mercy.
2. That the holy and dedicated life of St John of God will inspire all placed under his patronage, the sick, nurses and hospitals, book sellers and book binders. Lord, have mercy.
3. That people denied the opportunity of medical care in hospitals in

Palestine, Ukraine, Russia, Myanmar and the Democratic Republic of the Congo, will soon have their rights to care restored to them.

 Lord, have mercy.

Celebrant: Father and King, attend to the sound of our voices

and have pity upon us.

 Through Christ our Lord.

**Petitions suitable if Pope Francis should die**

**Sunday 2nd March**

1. For the eternal rest of Pope Francis,

that as he was a loyal servant of Jesus and the Church,

he may enter the Father’s heavenly home.

Lord, hear us.

**Lord, hear our prayer.**

1. For the Universal Church, that united in prayer

on the death of Pope Francis,

we will be consoled through his ministry to the world.

Lord, hear us.

**Lord, hear our prayer.**

**Monday 3rd March**

1. May Pope Francis rest now from his work of service

so that his good deeds will escort him into the arms of Jesus.

Lord, hear us.

1. May the Cardinals, traveling to Rome for the Conclave,

be safe and prayerful, open to the gift of the Holy Spirit.

Lord, hear us.

**Tuesday 4th March**

1. That Pope Francis will be welcomed into heaven

by Mary and all the Saints, and rejoice in the

eternal life of the Trinity.

Lord, hear us.

1. That the Cardinals of the Church will feel the power

of the prayer throughout the Church as they prepare to enter the Conclave and elect the new successor of St. Peter.

Lord, hear us.

**Wednesday 5th March**

1. May God prepare the heavenly Jerusalem

to receive the soul of Pope Francis

so that his hopes will be realized in Jesus.

Lord, have mercy.

1. May the Church be united in prayer for the Cardinals

who will soon elect the next Pope so that hope

reigns in every heart.

Lord, have mercy.

**Thursday 6th March**

1. We pray for Pope Francis, that the eternal rest and joy of Jesus

will be showered upon him after his life of unselfish service.

Lord, have mercy.

1. We pray for all who will arrange and assist in the Conclave

so that the Cardinals will enter it prayerfully, hopefully

and calmly for the good of the whole Church.

Lord, have mercy.

**Friday 7th March**

1. We pray that Pope Francis will receive the reward of eternal

life after a life of service to the People of God and all humanity.

Lord, have mercy.

1. We pray that the whole Church will be united in prayer,

assisting the Cardinals with hope, as they ponder in their hearts

a worthy Pope to follow Pope Francis.

Lord, have mercy.

**Saturday 8th March**

1. That the doors of heaven will be thrown open to receive

the soul of Pope Francis as he finally sees God as he really is.

Lord, have mercy.

1. That each Cardinal will scrutinize his heart carefully and prayerfully

that he may vote in the approaching Conclave with a clear conscience.

Lord, have mercy.