**The Universal Prayer**

**Sunday 20th July 2025**

**16th Sunday in Ordinary Time**

Celebrant: Sisters and brothers,

 the hospitality which Abraham and Sarah extended to the

 three angels, and that which Martha and Mary extended to

 Jesus, invites us to serve Jesus through our spirit of

 hospitality today.

1. That the intention of Pope Leo for this month of July, that we may learn how to discern the issues which face us, and choose life and reject anything which leads us away from Christ.

Lord, hear us.

**Lord, hear our prayer.**

1. That with St Paul we will offer to God our personal and community sufferings for the Church which endures persecution in many places

around the world.

 Lord, hear us.

 **Lord, hear our prayer.**

1. That our faith will always be centred upon the mystery of Christ among us, our hope of glory, so that like Martha and Mary we can combine the activity of charity with the silence of prayer.

Lord, hear us.

**Lord, hear our prayer.**

1. That as we mark the anniversary of the first humans to land on the moon,

all exploration of space will be in the cause of peace, the sharing of scientific knowledge, and to the glory of God, the Creator.

Lord, hear us.

**Lord, hear our prayer.**

5. That the attack on the one remaining Christian village of Taybeh in the Holy Land, and on other Christians in the Occupied West Bank, will draw us into prayerful solidarity with them, seeking Divine Peace.

Lord, hear us.

**Lord, hear our prayer.**

6 That

Lord, hear us.

**Lord, hear our prayer.**

7. That the victims of war and persecution will share the hospitality of God

 and sit at the heavenly banquet.

We also remember,

Lord, hear us.

**Lord, hear our prayer.**

Celebrant: Heavenly Father,

 give us the grace to walk without fault,

 to act with justice and to speak the truth,

that we may be found worthy to stand on your holy mountain.

Through Christ our Lord.

**The Universal Prayer**

**Monday 21st July 2025**

**St Lawrence of Brindisi**

**16th Week in Ordinary Time**

Celebrant: God’s power is revealed to us, sometimes in dramatic events, but more often in the simplicity and human gestures of kindness and respect.

1. May we, this day,

see God at work around us,

in creation and in the people we meet.

Lord, hear us.

1. May we, when life is difficult,

put our trust in God, as did Moses long ago.

Lord, hear us.

1. May we, when we feel fear,

know that God has the will and the power to save us.

Lord, hear us.

1. May we, in deepening our faith,

look to the wisdom of Jesus.

Lord, hear us.

1. May we, faced with so many wars in the Middle East, Europe,

Africa and Asia, turn to Jesus, the Prince of Peace.

Lord, hear us.

1. May we, following the example of St Lawrence of Brindisi, seek unity with Lutherans, respect for people of Jewish faith, and harmony across Europe.

Lord, hear us.

Celebrant: Lord, fill us with Jesus’ life

 so that each day we can live for you

 through love of our neighbour.

 Through Christ our Lord.

**The Universal Prayer**

**Tuesday 22nd July 2025**

**Feast of St Mary Magdalene**

**Apostle to the Apostles**

Celebrant: Sisters and brothers, Mary Magdalene is one of the most loved of all saints. Her closeness and devotion to Jesus during his earthly life speaks of friendship generated

through faith.

1. We pray for all women in the Church,

that inspired by St Mary Magdalene, the Apostle to the Apostles,

they will give witness to the Risen Christ by their faith and love.

Lord, hear us.

1. We pray for preachers of the word of God,

that, like Mary Magdalene, they may embrace the Cross

and proclaim the Resurrection.

Lord, hear us.

3. We pray for the students and staff of St Mary Magdalene School in Elizabeth, that they may grow in holiness.

Lord, hear us.

4 We pray for the girls and women of the Holy Land, that they may have Mary Magdelene’s courage and trust in God, and be delivered from violence, indignity and deprivation of the basics of life.

 Lord, hear us.

5. We pray for each other that like Mary Magdalene

we may have a strong and fervent love for Jesus Christ,

Redeemer of the world.

Lord, hear us.

Celebrant: Lord our God, we thirst for you and long to see your glory. We bless you for all your gifts and raise our hands in praise.

Through Christ our Lord.

**The Universal Prayer**

**Wednesday 23rd July 2025**

**St Bridget of Sweden**

**Sixteenth Week in Ordinary Time**

Celebrant: The parable of the sower,

 and the fruitfulness of the harvest,

 tells us of the power and effects

 of the word of God in people’s lives.

1. May the Church proclaim and give witness to the word of God

with great confidence, knowing that Christ is always the one

who sows the seed of his truth in people’s hearts.

Lord, hear us.

1. May bishops, priests and deacons, ordained to preach the word of God,

prepare their homilies with prayer, careful attention, sound knowledge and pastoral love.

Lord, hear us.

1. May the word of God, a word of truth, justice and mercy,

shape the nations of the world, ensuring that the laws of each land enhance human dignity, respect human rights and promote religious freedom.

Lord, hear us.

5 May St Bridget, wife, mother, widow, and religious founder, with an intense devotion to the Passion of Jesus, intercede for her native Sweden, for all of Europe and for the people of Warooka on the Yorke Peninsular, placed under her patronage.

 Lord, hear us.

6 May the nations of Europe continue to support the Ukraine and its war with Russia which continues with loss of life and destruction in cities and countryside, that a true and lasting peace will prevail.

 Lord, hear us.

Celebrant: Lord God, the bread which you will soon give us

 is a far greater blessing than the bread you gave to

 the people in the desert. Here you give us

 the Bread of Life, your Son, Jesus Christ,

 who is Lord, for ever and ever.

**The Universal Prayer**

**Thursday 25th July 2025**

**St Sharbel Makhluf**

Celebrant: Sisters and brothers, we have been richly blessed by God, for while people in the past longed to see what we see, by faith we know Jesus Christ, the Son of God.

1. May every heart which is restless,

find peace through faith in Jesus Christ.

Lord, hear us.

1. May the Church, through her many ministries, open up the Scriptures,

so that many more people may discover the truth and beauty of Christ.

Lord, hear us.

1. May Christians recognise the presence of God in prayer,

and on the faces of the poor and oppressed of the world.

Lord, hear us.

1. May this World Drowning Prevention Day increase the ability of Australia to alert and educate international students and tourists

of the dangers in our oceans and rivers, and keep them safe.

Lord, hear us.

1. May St Sharbel, who showed deep prayer and great kindness during his life, intercede for his Lebanon, so that there is harmony between Christians, Muslins and Druse people, stability of government and continuing support for the 2 million refugees who live there.

Lord, hear us.

1. May peace come to the Holy Land, Ukraine and Russia, Sudan and South Sudan, Nigeria and Myanmar.

Lord, hear us.

Celebrant: Glory and praise to you, Lord God,

 glory and praise to your holy Name,

 glory and praise in this your temple,

 glory and praise now and for ever.

**The Universal Prayer**

**Friday 25th July 2025**

**St James, apostle**

(St Christopher)

Readings Proper to the Feast

Celebrant: James and his brother John, along with Peter, shared a closer relationship with Jesus than the other apostles.

 May our living of the word of God draw us closer to

 the same Jesus.

1. May Christians accept that they must share the cup of the Lord’s

suffering in order to share the joy of his glory.

Lord, hear us.

1. May those in leadership in the Church not seek power over others,

but rather be filled with the spirit of a servant like Jesus.

Lord, hear us.

1. May each of us cling to that treasure which we hold within us,

Jesus Christ, Lord and Saviour, Friend and Brother.

Lord, hear us.

1. May the nations of Spain, Guatemala and Nicaragua, along with the

 people of Keith, who honour St James as patron,

journey through life with their hearts set on the Kingdom of God.

Lord, hear us.

1. May peace come to all the land where Philip and James were born

and were called and followed Jesus faithfully.

Lord, hear us.

1. May the people of Ardrossan, along with pilgrims and travelers,

especially motorists, who pray to St Christopher as patron, and whom the Church also honours today, be protected from all harm.

Lord, hear us.

Celebrant: Father, what marvels you work for us through your Son,

Jesus Christ. You grace us with life and love.

Bring us to the heavenly home.

Through Christ our Lord.

**The Universal Prayer**

**Saturday 26th July 2025**

**Saints Joachim and Anne, Parents of Mary**

Celebrant: God prepared for the coming of Jesus

 by blessing men and women with holiness.

 As we prepare for his return

 may we also be clothed in holiness.

1. May we long for God’s consolations

as did Anne and Joachim,

and discover anew that Christ is always among us.

Lord, hear us.

1. May grandparents be blessed on this day

with the love and respect of their grandchildren,

as Anne and Joachim were blessed in their grandchild, Jesus.

Lord, hear us.

1. May those who invoke the patronage of St Anne -

the people of Elizabeth East and the parish of St Anne at Seacombe Gardens-St Mary’s be strengthened in their family life and church community.

Lord, hear us.

1. May women who long for a child seek the intercession of their

patron St Anne.

Lord, hear us.

1. May miners across Australia, and in other countries,

who honour St Anne as patron, be protected from harm and

be given the justice of safe working conditions.

Lord, hear us.

1. May there be peace in the land where Anne and Joachim

raised their daughter Mary, especially parents and the elderly

in Gaza and the Occupied West Bank where their suffering is intense.

Lord, hear us.

Celebrant: Lord, look upon us in your great love

 and hear our every prayer.

Through Christ our Lord.