**Fourth Sunday of Easter**

**Prayers of the Faithful**

**Celebrant:** Gathered together in the Holy Spirit, ‘*we are [God’s] people, the sheep of his flock*’. With confidence we bring our prayers before the Lord.

1. For the election of a new Pope: in this Jubilee Year, may the Holy Spirit provide a faithful shepherd who cares for God’s people in truth, compassion, charity and hope. **Lord, hear us.**
2. For our parish community: as we assemble to *‘hear the word of God’* may our lives be transformed by a desire to serve Christ in each other. **Lord, hear us.**
3. For those expelled from *‘their territory’* or homeland. May the international community safeguard people’s right to life, freedom, dignity and happiness. **Lord, hear us.**
4. On this Vocations Sunday, we pray for the parishes of our Diocese. Alive with the Holy Spirit and rooted in prayer, may they foster a culture of vocations where men and women will sense God’s call with greater clarity. **Lord, hear us.**
5. For parents and teachers, that they may be guided by the Holy Spirit and encourage young people to hear and respond to God’s call in their lives. **Lord, hear us.**
6. For those who promote vocations and support candidates in their vocational discernment. May the Holy Spirit enlighten them as they mould, inform and encourage them. **Lord, hear us.**
7. We pray that each person might find personal fulfilment in their work, families might be sustained in dignity, and society humanised. **Lord, hear us.**
8. For those with responsibility for the formation of seminarians. Bless them with a spirit of humility, that aflame with love for God, they may instruct them in prayer and guide them to a life of service in the Church. **Lord, hear us.**
9. In gratitude for our priests and their selfless care in our parish: reward them for their leadership and compassion. Sustain them in prayer and fill their lives with joy and hope. **Lord, hear us.**
10. For those who have died: may the Lamb ‘*lead them to springs of living water’* in heaven. **Lord, hear us.**

**Celebrant:** Good shepherd, you are ‘*faithful from age to age’* and always remain at our side. Accept these prayers and bring to all whom we have prayed your blessings of love, joy and peace. We ask this through Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**