

PRIEST: Let us turn to the Lord with our prayers, asking that his voice will renew in us our love for God and neighbour:

READER: **For church leaders throughout the world,  
that they may continue to be open to the guidance of the Holy Spirit.**  
*(pause)*  
**Lord in your mercy**

READER: **For those in authority, that the leaders of the world's nations,  
acting with integrity, may relieve poverty and bring an end to injustice.**  
*(pause)*  
**Lord in your mercy**

READER: **For all who refuse to listen to the Gospel or who seek  
to silence the Church, that their ears may be opened to  
the voice of peace and their hearts to the abiding presence of God.**  
*(pause)*  
**Lord in your mercy**

READER: **For our own parish community, that we may be renewed  
in spirit by God's word and strengthened by the Eucharist.**  
*(pause)*  
**Lord in your mercy**

READER: **For those who feel worthless in the sight of others, that they  
may know that they are chosen and loved by God.**  
*(pause)*  
**Lord in your mercy**

READER: **For all who are sick or housebound, elderly or vulnerable,  
and especially those close to death,  
that they will be comforted by the knowledge of Christ's love.**  
*(pause)*  
**Lord in your mercy**

PRIEST: God our Father,  
you are our strength and our protection.  
Open our hearts to your grace  
that we may always know, and do, your will.  
We ask this through Christ our Lord.