

PRIEST: As we begin our Lenten journey we turn in prayer to God our Father asking for his help as we prepare to celebrate the Resurrection at Easter:

READER: **For the Church, that all who follow Christ will keep Lent well and so come to the Feast of Easter with heart and mind renewed.**

(pause)

Lord in your mercy

READER: **For all who are preparing to be baptised at Easter and all who will be received into full communion with the Church: that they will always recognise the presence of Christ in their lives.**

(pause)

Lord in your mercy

READER: **For each of us as we prepare to keep Lent Fast day on Friday that we may have a true Spirit of self-denial and be content with less so that others may have more.**

(pause)

Lord in your mercy

READER: **For our parish community and for our brothers and sisters everywhere; that together we may aspire to seek justice for those who are oppressed, freedom for those who are held captive and relief for those without food, water or basic medicines.**

(pause)

Lord in your mercy

READER: **For all who are sick or suffering in any way, that they will be strengthened by the knowledge of Christ's love.**

(pause)

Lord in your mercy

PRIEST: God our Father,
in every age you call a people
to hear your word and to do your will.
Open our eyes to your deeds
and our ears to the sound of your call
so that our every act may increase our sharing
in the new life you offer to us.
We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.