### Prayer of the Faithful

# Mary, the Holy Mother of God, Year A

### Presider

As Mary pondered in her heart the wonderful gifts of God, we bring the prayers we hold in our hearts, confident we shall be heard.

### Reader

We pray for Pope Francis and all the bishops and priests of our Church. May they continue to follow the example of Mary, responding to God’s call with humility and whole-hearted devotion.

Lord, hear us.  
**Lord, hear our prayer.**

We pray for those forced to separate from their families because of war, persecution or economic conditions. May their hope of being united with their loved ones become a reality.

Lord, hear us.  
**Lord, hear our prayer.**

We pray for all mothers. May they be given strength, wisdom and courage to face the challenges that family life can bring, and may they also experience its deepest joys.

Lord, hear us.  
**Lord, hear our prayer.**

As we embark on a new year, we pray for our parish. May we hear and respond to the word of God, finding strength and unity in the Eucharist we share.

Lord, hear us.  
**Lord, hear our prayer.**

We pray for …

Lord hear us.  
**Lord, hear our prayer.**

We pray for all who have gone before us in death over the past year, especially family members and those who have died recently, and for those whose anniversaries occur at this time. May they be welcomed by God to the peace of their heavenly home.

Lord, hear us.  
**Lord, hear our prayer.**

### Presider

Father, may we, like Mary, open our hearts to your transforming love, gratefully pondering in our hearts all that you have done. We ask this through Christ our Lord.  
**Amen.**