

## Season of Easter : Sunday 4B

World Day of Prayer for Vocations

### General Intercessions

#### Priest

Giving thanks to God,  
who draws us into the mystery of his Son's death and resurrection,  
we pray for the needs of the Church and of the world.

#### Reader

1. For Pope Francis;  
for Bishop Paul as he begins his seventh year as our Bishop;  
for all priests, deacons and religious:  
may the Lord keep them safe in these uncertain times.

*PAUSE for silent prayer — at least five seconds, please. Repeat after each intention.*

Lord, in your mercy. **Hear our prayer.**

2. For an increase in vocations to the priesthood and consecrated life:  
may God raise up Good Shepherds in our midst.
3. For all who are preparing for Confirmation:  
may they be open to all the gifts that the Holy Spirit offers them,  
and may they enrich the Church with their talents and energy.
4. For an end to conflict around the world; for peace and reconciliation:  
we especially pray for the people caught up in the wars  
in the Holy Land, in Ukraine, and in Sudan.
5. For all the aid workers who voluntarily lay their lives on the line every day  
to bring help and succour to civilians caught up in wars not of their making:  
may the Lord give them the strength and courage they need.
6. For all who have died, that they may be forever in God's presence;  
and for all those grieving the death of a loved one;  
that they may experience the compassion of the Lord in their pain.
7. We ask Mary, Mother of our Risen Lord, to join her prayers with ours: Hail Mary

#### Priest

O God,  
in your providence you give your people  
pastors to guide them.  
Pour out in your Church the spirit of reverence and courage  
to raise up worthy ministers of your altar  
and to make them strong but gentle champions of your gospel.  
We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
Amen.