**Bidding Prayers – 5th Sunday of Easter**

**27/28 April 2024 – Year B**

**Priest**

Loving Lord, we want to make our home in you. Help us connect to you as we bring our thoughts, aspirations, and prayers to you.

**Reader**

We pray for Pope Francis, as he reiterates his urgent plea for bold action for our common home and for world peace. ***Pause*** ... Lord in your mercy ... **Hear our prayer**

Children are our future. As UNICEF expresses concern about the mounting death toll among children in Ukraine after the war against Russia entered its third year, we pray for all those that have died, are currently displaced and all those bereaved. We also pray for the three million children in Haiti that are in need of humanitarian assistance as continuing gang violence hampers aid delivery. ***Pause*** ... Lord in your mercy ... **Hear our prayer**

We pray for the three British aid workers killed during an Israeli air strike on Gaza. They were among seven World Central Kitchen workers killed in the strike. May they always be remembered for their bravery. ***Pause*** ... Lord in your mercy ... **Hear our prayer**

As NHS waiting lists continue to rise, we pause to pray for all those that are awaiting treatment and dealing with the daily struggle of pain and worry. May the Holy Spirit soothe and comfort them. ***Pause*** ... Lord in your mercy ... **Hear our prayer**

We pray for our parish as it continues to grow in its mission to be a ‘**Parish on a Hill Top’** and radiate love and mercy through all our fellowship and plans. In particular we pray for all those on the ‘**Life in the Spirit’ journey**. ***Pause*** ... Lord in your mercy ... **Hear our prayer**

We bring our own prayers to our heavenly Father, in the silence of our hearts …

**PLEASE TAKE A LONG PAUSE**

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

We ask Mary to pray for us, as we say together: **Hail Mary…**

**Priest**

Loving Lord, we love and adore you. Thank you for guiding us as we journey through the year, always keeping you close. We ask this in your name, Jesus Christ who lives and reigns for ever and ever, **Amen.**