

Prayers of Compassion and Hope

for the

Year of a Culture of Generous Stewardship, 2011

Collect

O God, you shower us with abundant gifts, filling us with your grace and caring for the needs of all your creatures. Transform our hearts and illumine our minds so that we may show forth your generosity in everything we do; this we pray through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Litany

Leader: Let us pray to the one who empowers us to become a community of compassion and hope saying, God of love,

All: **hear our prayer.**

Leader: Grant us wisdom and perseverance to bring before our elected officials the needs of those whose cries for justice are ignored in our society, God of love,

All: **hear our prayer.**

Leader: Give grace to all bishops and clergy who seek creative ways to equip and empower their congregations for loving service, God of love,

All: **hear our prayer.**

Leader: May we, your church, learn to reflect your generosity in our daily lives, God of love,

All: **hear our prayer.**

Leader: Pour out the gifts of your Holy Spirit upon all members of our parish, that we might have the courage to live generously, seeking to serve Christ in all persons, God of love,

All: **hear our prayer.**

Leader: Give vision and voice to our children and youth so they might inspire the whole church to new expressions of compassion and hope in our world, God of love,

All: **hear our prayer.**

Leader: I invite you to name before God those for whom you pray this day.
 [*Silence.*] We pray also for [*list of those with special needs*]. God of love,
All: **hear our prayer.**

Leader: We pray for all who have died [*especially...*]. We ask you to comfort all who mourn. Give us grace so that our lives, too, may reflect the light of Christ. God of love,
All: **hear our prayer. Amen.**

Prayer over the Gifts

God of compassion, receive all we offer you this day. Fill us with courage to live abundantly; we ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Eucharistic Preface

Blessed are you, gracious God, Creator of heaven and earth; you sent your Son that we may have life and have it abundantly. You care for our needs, and you give us rich gifts so that we might care for the needs of our neighbours. Therefore with angels and archangels we raise our voices in grateful praise to proclaim the glory of your name.

Prayer after Communion

Strengthened by this Holy Communion let us stand together in prayer:

God of hope, in the Eucharist you give us a foretaste of your heavenly banquet. May we who are fed by so great a feast seek to nourish others through our generous deeds and our words of compassion, O Holy One, who lives and reigns, Creator, Redeemer and Sanctifier, One God, now and forever. **Amen**

Grace at Mealtimes

We thank you and bless you Good Creator, for this good food, [*other gifts of the occasion*] . . . and for the health to enjoy it; for these and all your many blessings, your Holy Name be praised. **Amen.**