**Prayers of the people, Trinity Sunday, June 7, 2020**

Lord, on this Trinity Sunday we pray for the church throughout the world, for those that are thriving and for those that have lost a sense of direction.

We give thanks for our own Church of Ascension and its people, and gladly acknowledge all the gifts you have given us through its life. We ask you to open wide our hearts in these troubled times that we may welcome the stranger and share our faith with others.

Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.

We pray for all who bear the responsibility of leadership - for heads of state, ambassadors and political advisers, remembering particularly our prime minister Justin and the members of his government. We pray for those trying to resolve the problems of endemic racism and inequality, especially south of the border. Give them a vision of peace and reconciliation to guide them.

Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Lord, we pray for peace in the whole world. We remember those who struggle against injustice, and for those whom war, famine and the pandemic have robbed of homes, families and friends. May they be filled with your strength and wisdom.

Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.

We remember today those who are sick, sad or lonely, so many isolated from their family and community, and for those who are brave and patient when things go wrong. We pray that they may be aware of your comforting presence and see it in the faces of all those who help them.

Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Lord, we pray for all whose life is saddened by the death of a loved one. Be with them in their loneliness and bring comfort to them.

Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Lord we ask you to lead us into the coming week. Help us to believe that you are close by, keep us from making mistakes and help us never to disappoint you. Amen