PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL **3rd Sunday of Easter**

PRIEST: As we continue to celebrate the Resurrection
and confident that Christ intercedes for us with the Father
we place our needs before him:

READER: **For Pope Leo, that he may continue to shepherd Christ's sheep,**
helping them to grow in holiness.
(pause)
Lord in your mercy

READER: **For all who feel distant from the presence of God, that they may**
encounter him anew through the witness of the Church.
(pause)
Lord in your mercy

READER: **For those persecuted for their faith,**
that they will not lose their confidence in the promises of Christ.
(pause)
Lord in your mercy

READER: **For all those whose decisions shape the lives of others,**
that all in authority may act with courage,
decide with wisdom and always strive to serve the common good.
(pause)
Lord in your mercy

READER: **For all who are sick, and for those close to death,**
that Jesus, the risen Saviour, will give them grace and strength.
(pause)
Lord in your mercy

READER: **For our own community, that we will always be signs**
of reconciliation and hope for others.
(pause)
Lord in your mercy

PRIEST: Almighty and ever-loving God,
you raised Jesus from death to life.
Open our ears that we may know your will
and our hearts that we may do your will.
We ask this in his name, Christ Jesus our Lord.