

PRIEST: The Son of God was sent to save the world. As we prepare for the paschal feast, let us ask God to grant all peoples everywhere new birth in the Spirit:

READER: **For the Church throughout the world that, as we continue our Lenten journey, we will listen to the voice of Jesus and faithfully follow him.**

(pause)

Lord in your mercy

READER: **For those who are preparing for the Easter sacraments, that God will draw them closer and help them to turn toward all that is holy and good.**

(pause)

Lord in your mercy

READER: **For all who are facing crisis or loss, that they may grow in their trust of God to bring forth change and a new beginning.**

(pause)

Lord in your mercy

READER: **For our community, that the prayer, fasting and almsgiving of Lent may bring forth a new springtime of faith in our lives.**

(pause)

Lord in your mercy

READER: **For those trying to discern their calling in life: that they may make space in the busyness of life to let God's Word move their hearts.**

(pause)

Lord in your mercy

READER: **For all who are sick, suffering or bereaved, that they will be strengthened by the knowledge of Christ's love.**

(pause)

Lord in your mercy

PRIEST: Blessed are you, God of Abraham and Sarah, who made of your people a great nation. Receive our prayers for those in need and bless us as we come to your altar; We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord.