PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL **16th Sunday in Ordinary Time**

PRIEST: As members of the Body of Christ, we are called
to love and serve one another, so let us turn to the Father
with our prayers for ourselves and for our world:

READER: **For Pope Leo and Bishop Bosco that, inspired by the Spirit, they may be wise pastors and leaders of God's people.**
(pause)
Lord in your mercy

READER: **For all who exercise authority in our world, that they may learn to act together to create peace, prosperity and justice.**
(pause)
Lord in your mercy

READER: **For all who are marginalised, for whatever reason, that there will be an end to discrimination and that they may experience the acceptance that is their due.**
(pause)
Lord in your mercy

READER: **For those whose lives are filled with distraction and fears, that their anxieties may be calmed and they may be able to rest in the stillness of God's presence.**
(pause)
Lord in your mercy

READER: **For our own parish community, that we will always offer a warm welcome to the stranger in our midst.**
(pause)
Lord in your mercy

READER: **For all who are sick in body, mind or spirit, that they may know the peace and comfort of Christ's love.**
(pause)
Lord in your mercy

PRIEST: Lord, with Abraham and Sarah we open wide our hearts to serve you;
with Mary of Bethany we open wide our ears to hear your word;
with Martha we open wide our hands to do your work.
May our prayers today centre our lives on your Son, Jesus Christ,
who is Lord for ever and ever. Amen.