

Universal Prayer

(Choose 5 – one from each section A-E)

Following the homily, all will stand and join in the Universal Prayer (often called the “Petitions” or “Prayers of the Faithful”). The presider will introduce them and then the prayers will be read. Following are suggested prayers. If other prayers choose to be written, please discuss this with the presider. You may choose a friend or family member to read them or they will be read by the priest or deacon.

The reader will begin by saying, “Our response will be, ‘Lord, hear our prayer.’”

- A1. For the Church throughout the world. May our faith in the love God has for us be expressed in our love for one another. We pray to the Lord.
- A2. For our Holy Father on earth, Pope Francis, all the bishops and the clergy everywhere, that they may lead us to deeper faith in God and a stronger love for others. We pray to the Lord.
- A3. For Christians everywhere, that the world may see our love for one another and come to believe. We pray to the Lord.
- A4. For all God’s people, loved by God as a bride is loved by her husband, we pray to the Lord.

-
- B1. For **BRIDE** and **GROOM**, who begin their married life together this day. May they experience the love of God, the support of family and friends, and the blessings of children. We pray to the Lord.
 - B2. For **BRIDE** and **GROOM**, that the love they pledge to each other today may bring light and joy into their lives and the lives of others. We pray to the Lord.
 - B3. For **BRIDE** and **GROOM**, may they live long, blessed lives together, may their love grow stronger each and every day, and may they build a family rooted in faith and unconditional love. We pray to the Lord.
 - B4. For **BRIDE** and **GROOM**, now beginning their life together, may they have divine assistance at every moment, the constant support of friends and family, the rich blessing of children, a warm love reaching out to others, and good health. We pray to the Lord.

-
- C1. For all who are part of our lives: our parents, friends, and companions along the way, and for all who have helped to bring us to this day. We pray to the Lord.

(over)

- C2. That the friends and family members who celebrate here with us today work to build up the body of Christ in faith. We pray to the Lord.
 - C3. For our family members and friends gathered here today and for the growth of love among us all. We pray to the Lord.
 - C4. For all our guests gathered here with us today. May they enjoy the warm company of family and friends and have safe travel on their journey home. We pray to the Lord.
-

- D1. For all those who have died, especially the relatives and friends of **BRIDE** and **GROOM** and those present for this wedding. May they enjoy perfect happiness and total fulfillment in eternal life. We pray to the Lord.
 - D2. For all members of our families who have passed from this world, and for all the departed. We pray to the Lord.
 - D3. That **NAMES**, and all our deceased family and friends may rest in the peace of Christ. We pray to the Lord.
 - D4. For beloved deceased grandparents, family, and friends now in the company of God. We pray to the Lord.
-

- E1. For peace in our world. May all lands that suffer violence and injustice find peace and reconciliation. We pray to the Lord.
- E2. For the poor, the homeless, and for those who are unemployed. May our care and concern for those in need be a sign of God's love in the world. We pray to the Lord.
- E3. For the protection and sanctity of human life from conception until natural death. May all people be treated with the dignity they deserve as God's children. We pray to the Lord.
- E4. For all families throughout the world and for lasting peace among all people. We pray to the Lord.
- E5. For those who are sick, lonely, discouraged, or oppressed, that they may be strengthened by God's help and aided by their friends and family. We pray to the Lord.