

## Prayer of the Church – Sunday 16 May 2021 - *Easter 7B*

Almighty God and Father: we thank you that you sent your Son to be consecrated as the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world. Empower your Church by your Spirit to proclaim the good news of Christ's death and resurrection to all people.

*Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer***

Sanctify your people in your Word, and as you send them into the world, protect them by the power of your holy name. Be with our young people as they grow and mature in their Christian faith amidst the challenges of today's society, and strengthen Christians undergoing persecution around the world. *Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer***

You answered the prayer of the Apostles by adding Matthias to the eleven. Bless our Bishops John Henderson and David Altus, and call more pastors into the apostolic ministry. *Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer***

Thank you for making your name known around the world. Extend your word through bible translation and literacy work, publishing and broadcasting. Bless LCA International Mission, and Lutheran Media Ministry. *Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer***

Have mercy on the people of the world suffering the effects of sin. Limit the destructive hand of evil, and bless our Prime Minister *Scott Morrison*, our Premier Stephen Marshall, and all in authority. *Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer***

Protect this world from violent weather and failed harvests. Give success to relief organisations like Australian Lutheran World Service, and encourage us toward generous giving to those in need. *Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer***

Bring healing and comfort to those who are suffering, especially those we now name silently to you... *(brief silence)* *Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer***

We thank you for James Wills and Dorothy Best, and ask that you bless them richly on the occasion of their wedding, and in their life together. *Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer***

We thank you for Richard and Rhianna Jones, Anne Delon, Tristan Kramer and Dakota Ochsenham, and ask that you bless them as they prepare for their respective baptisms and confirmations. *Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer***

All these things we ask this in the name of Jesus Christ your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**