

Universal Prayer

23 August 2026

Presider: Let us bring our prayers before God,
trusting in his wisdom and love for all people.

1. For Pope Leo, Bishop Brian, and all Church leaders:

may they serve with humility and courage.

[pause] We pray to the Lord.

2. For our parish and local community:

that we may welcome all and share Christ's love with our neighbours.

[pause] We pray to the Lord.

3. For those suffering from war, violence, or injustice:

may peace and justice prevail in every land.

[pause] We pray to the Lord.

4. For the sick, the lonely, and those struggling with life's burdens:

may they find hope and support.

[pause] We pray to the Lord.

5. For our mission:

that we may use the "keys" entrusted to us to open doors of faith for others.

[pause] We pray to the Lord.

6. For our beloved dead, and all who have died recently:

may they rest in the peace of Christ.

[pause] We pray to the Lord.

Presider: *Loving God, hear the prayers we offer in faith. Strengthen us to know, follow, and share Jesus with our neighbours. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.*

[At the end of Mass]

Thank you to everyone who arrived early today to help us be a single body united in prayer from the very beginning. It makes such a difference to our whole community and celebration together. So, thank you!

Community Greeter | 23 August 2026 (Sunday 21)

Welcome everyone to St John's, as we gather on the lands of the Dharawal people.

- My name is _____
- Our celebrant is Fr John | Fr Richard
- Welcome, friends, as we gather to answer Jesus' question:
"Who do you say I am?" and renew our mission together.

We welcome **every guest** today, especially if you are new.

We are so glad that you are here with us!

✎ 1. If there is Music: ✎

Let us stand and prepare ourselves as one body as together we sing:

✎ or 2. If no Music: ✎

Let us be united as one body as we stand and pray the entrance antiphon together:

Turn your ear, O Lord, and answer me;
save the servant who trusts in you, my God.
Have mercy on me, O Lord, for I cry to you all the day long.

Penitential Act [Priest]

Before we celebrate in the love of the God who is always calling and inviting us,
let us pause and acknowledge our need for healing and life. *[All pause for silent prayer.]*

Lord Jesus, you are the rock of our faith and hope. Lord, have mercy.

Christ Jesus, you bring peace and forgiveness to our troubled world.

Christ, have mercy.

Lord Jesus, you entrust us with the keys of your kingdom. Lord, have mercy.

May almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us our sins,
and lead us to the life of the age to come. Amen.