**The Universal Prayer**

**Sunday 9th February 2025**

**Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

**Australia: Sunday of the Word of God**

Celebrant: My sisters and brothers, the call of the fishermen

 to follow Jesus is a reminder of the power of the word of God

 in our lives as we celebrate today the Sunday of the Word of

 God. Today is also the Jubilee of the Armed Forces, Police and

 Security Personnel.

1. May members of the Armed Forces, Police and Security Personnel,

celebrating the Jubilee of Hope today, be strengthened in their commitment to protect people, and the responsibility to treat all people with respect.

Let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, hear our prayer.**

1. May our armed forces, police and security personnel, who so often witness the ugly and evil side of humanity, be protected from harm,

receive support for their mental health, and be honoured with our gratitude.

Let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, hear our prayer.**

1. May each of us receive the word of God with the openness of Peter, James and John and find in it the hope and joy of being disciples of Jesus in the world of our own time.

Let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, hear our prayer.**

Archdiocese of Adelaide only.

1. May our local Church of Adelaide be fully committed to the protection

of the life of the unborn, and may parents who have lost a child before or after birth experience the hopeful comfort of Jesus who promised to

bless those who mourn.

Let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, hear our prayer.**

1. May the ceasefire hold in Gaza and the hostages and prisoners be released, those suffering bushfires in Victoria and floods in Queensland

receive the help they need, and relief from famine for Sudan and an end to the violence in the Democratic Republic of Congo.

Let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, hear our prayer.**

1. May…

Let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, hear our prayer.**

7 May the members of the armed forces, police and security personnel

who died in the service of their country and community receive the fulfilment of their hope to live in the peace of heaven.

 We remember….

Let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, hear our prayer.**

Celebrant: Almighty God,

 we thank you for your faithfulness and love,

 for your protecting hand

 and sacred word,

 so that in freedom

 we can offer you our praise.

 Through Christ our Lord.

**The Universal Prayer**

**Sunday 9th February 2025**

**Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

**Outside of Australia**

Celebrant: My sisters and brothers, the call of the fishermen

 to follow Jesus is a reminder of the power of the word of God

 to change lives gently and forever,

 as the Jubilee of the Armed Forces, Police and

 Security Personnel takes place in Rome this weekend..

1. May members of the Armed Forces, Police and Security Personnel,

 celebrating the Jubilee of Hope with Pope Francis today, be strengthened in their commitment to protect people and the responsibility to treat all people with respect.

 Let us pray to the Lord.

 **Lord, hear our prayer.**

1. May our armed forces, police and security personnel, who so often witness the ugly and evil side of humanity be protected from harm,

 receive support for their mental health, and be honoured with our gratitude.

 Let us pray to the Lord.

 **Lord, hear our prayer.**

1. May each of us receive the word of God with the openness of Peter, James and John and find in it the hope and joy of being disciples of Jesus in the world of our own time.

 Let us pray to the Lord.

 **Lord, hear our prayer.**

1. May the women and girls, men and boys, who are victims of human

trafficking in its many forms around the world, receive the freedom which is their right as we celebrate this weekend the International Day of Prayer and Awareness against Humen Trafficking,

so that governments and citizens will work together to rid humanity

of this evil.

Let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, hear our prayer.**

1. May the ceasefire hold in Gaza and the hostages and prisoners be released, relief from famine in Sudan and an end to the

 violence in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, so that all can

 live with dignity in peace.

 Let us pray to the Lord.

 Lord, hear our prayer.

1. May…

Let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, hear our prayer.**

7 May the members of the armed forces, police and security personnel

who died in the service of their country and community receive the fulfilment of their hope to live in the peace of heaven.

 We remember….

Let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, hear our prayer.**

Celebrant: Almighty God,

 we thank you for your faithfulness and love,

 for your protecting hand

 and sacred word,

 so that in freedom

 we can offer you our praise.

 Through Christ our Lord.

**The Universal Prayer**

**Monday 10th February 2025**

**St Scholastica**

**5th Week in Ordinary Time**

Celebrant: The wonder of God’s creation, and the healing power of Jesus fill us with wonder.

1. May we be good stewards of creation, and in particular of the precious gift of water, so as to preserve this planet for future generations.

Let us pray to the Lord.

1. May those who work in caring for the environment,

especially in controlling the quality of water in rivers, lakes, wetlands and the seas, know that they are close to God the Creator.

 Let us pray to the Lord.

1. May those who work in hospitals, nursing homes,

hospices and hostels, and look after the sick at home,

treat those in their care with respect and receive a heavenly reward for their devotion.

Let us pray to the Lord.

1. May the holiness of St Scholastica and the close bond with her brother St Benedict, encourage us to pray for our own sisters and brothers today,

for their good health, holiness and salvation.

Let us pray to the Lord.

1. May Cariovascular Professionals be guided and blessed in their specialist vocation as we mark their week with thanksgiving and pray for their patients.

Let us pray to the Lord.

Celebrant: Father, creation praises you: the rivers and the seas, the valleys and

the mountains. In them your glory is seen. Receive also our praise.

 Through Christ our Lord.

**The Universal Prayer**

**Tuesday 11th February**

**Our Lady of Lourdes World Day of Prayer for the Sick**

**5th Week in Ordinary Time**

Celebrant: On this 33rd World Day of Prayer for the Sick,we pray for those who carry the burden of sickness and all who seek to help and support them.

1. That the example of Pope Francis to embrace the sick and infirm

and in offering us the theme for today – Hope does not disappoint, but strengthens us in times of trial – be sustained himself in health.

Let us pray to the Lord.

2 That the many professionals and volunteers who serve the sick in the

work of healing, bringing pain relief, rehabilitation, spiritual support, home care and comfort for the dying, will do so with respect and compassion.

Let us pray to the Lord.

1. That those involved in medical research and the development of

 treatments will work together in a co-operative spirit and adhere to

 the highest ethical standards.

Let us pray to the Lord.

 4 That the example of Mary to see the needs of others and to act upon

them will help us to be attentive and thoughtful towards all who

struggle in life because of illness, mental distress, accidents, disability, age and frailty.

Let us pray to the Lord.

1. That the residents of Lourdes Valley at Glen Osmond will have a love

 for Mary and be commited to her Son, Jesus, our Hope.

 Let us pray to the Lord.

1. That Mary, Health of the Sick, will hold the people of Palestine and

 Israel, Ukraine and Russia, Sudan and Myanmar close to her heart

 as they struggle with war injuries, inadequate medical care and

 depravation.

 Let us pray to the Lord.

Celebrant: Heavenly Father, with the intercession of Mary, Mother of Jesus, comfort the sick everywhere. Through Christ our Lord.

**The Universal Prayer**

**Wednesday 12th February 2025**

**5th Week in Ordinary Time**

Celebrant: We were created with original blessings symbolized by Adam in the garden in Eden. But with those blessings came the obligation to be obedient to God.

1. May all Christians learn to be obedient to God

by being faithful to the Gospel of Jesus.

Let us pray to the Lord.

1. May we care for the earth with a strong sense of responsibility,

for it is given to us on trust.

Let us pray to the Lord.

1. May organizations, government departments, and political parties which work for the protection of our environment do so for the welfare and health of all people.

Let us pray to the Lord.

1. May spiritual directors, priests, counselors, psychiatrists and psychologist who help people to face their own ‘demons’, be people of wisdom, sensitivity and truth.

Let us pray to the Lord.

1. May those in the Holy Land, Ukraine and in other places of war who are

deeply distressed, find friends who can support and comfort them.

Let us prau to the Lord.

Celebrant: Heavenly Father,

 clothed in majesty and glory,

 be mindful of those in desperate need

 and do not neglect the poor.

 Through Christ our Lord.

**The Universal Prayer**

**Thursday 13th February 2025**

**Fifth Week in Ordinary Time**

Celebrant: Sisters and brothers, the creation of man and woman completed God’s work and they became a sign of God’s eternal love for humanity.

1. We pray for married couples everywhere, that they may be blessed

in their love for each other.

Let us pray to the Lord.

1. We pray for governments around the world, that they may recognize the equality of men and women before God, and ensure that their human rights are always protected.

Let us pray to the Lord.

1. We pray for a strong faith in our parish community – a strength which reflects that of the woman in the gospel.

Let us pray to the Lord.

1. May those who work in radio, understand how profound is their vocation to bring accurate news, wise commentary, music, humour, and emergency information to people, as we mark World Radio Day.

Let us pray to the Lord.

1. May this 17th anniversary of the Apology to the Stolen Generation by the Australian Parliament today, shape the desire to right the wrongs of the past, and nourish a national desire for reconciliation across the land.

Let us pray to the Lord.

Celebrant: Father, bless us all the days of our lives, give us that happiness which comes from knowing you and your only Son, Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns for ever and ever.

**The Universal Prayer**

**Friday 14th February 2025**

**Ss Cyril and Methodius**

**(**St Valentine)

**Fifth Week in Ordinary Time**

Celebrant: The tragedy of sin stole those original blessings

 given to Adam and Eve, and so damaged humanity

so that all are affected by it.

1. May we learn to turn away from sin in our lives

and allow the grace of Christ to overwhelm us.

Let us pray to the Lord.

1. May we be careful of words of flattery and persuasion,

for sometimes there is evil intention and danger behind them.

Let us pray to the Lord.

1. May those who suffer a speech impediment or who are unable to

speak, be treated with respect and not in a condescending manner.

Let us pray to the Lord.

1. May speech therapists and educators who assist people to speak

clearly or to regain speech, carry out their work with care and devotion.

Let us pray to the Lord.

1. May the people of Europe, placed under the patronage of Sts Cyril and

Methodius, be instruments for world peace and human development,

and those of the Cech Republic and Slovakia, with special devotion to St

Cyril, seek to live in faith with justice.

Let us pray to the Lord.

1. May St Valentine pray for all who are in love this day.

Let us pray to the Lord.

1. May this National Donor Day bring blessings upon all who donate

organs, blood, marrow and tissue to assist those critically ill.

Let us pray to the Lord.

Celebrant: Lord God, happy are those whose sins are forgiven

 for you rebuild and strengthen the bond of friendship

 between yourself and them.

Through Christ our Lord.

#### **The Universal Prayer**

#### **Saturday 15th February 2025**

**Fifth Week in Ordinary Time**

Celebrant: Dear friends, the consequences of sin are dramatically illustrated in the expulsion of Adam and Eve from the Garden, but God remains every merciful, and promises a Saviour.

1. That no matter what happens to us in life, we may receive the

grace to trust in God and to be ever hopeful in his mercy.

Let us pray to the Lord.

1. That the difficulty of work may be accepted with dignity,

for God’s Son came among us and was known as the carpenter.

Let us pray to the Lord.

1. That those who are without food, especially in Gaza, the West Bank, Ukraine and Sudan, or are languishing in refugee camps, may eat and have their fill, through the work of nations and organizations which respond with justice and respect.

Let us pray to the Lord.

1. That those who work and volunteer in Day Centres and Night Shelters for the homeless, and who go into the streets with food for the hungry, may see Christ in those they serve, and be blessed by him.

Let us pray to the Lord.

1. That this Singles Awareness Day bring a blessing of contentment

and hope to all who live the single life.

Let us pray to the Lord.

Celebrant: Father and King, in every age you have been our refuge.

Look upon those in need,

and save them from present dangers.

Through Christ our Lord.