

# UNITED IN PRAYER



And the world came together as the people stayed apart. <sup>1</sup>

*We acknowledge the Traditional Owners of this land and pay our respects to their Elders past, present and emerging.*



## INTENTIONS

*We pray for ourselves, that we may let God's light shine through us.*

*We pray that we look for times and places of quiet, where fears disappear.*

*For what else shall we pray...*

*Let us remember we are in the holy presence of God.*

## OPENING PRAYER

God of Goodness, Truth and Beauty,  
we are drawn to You through the many gifts of creation as it unfolds in everyday ways.  
May we be conscious of Your Presence all around us and within us as we make space to trust  
and hear these gifts of Your creation.  
Amen.

## WE LISTEN

*Speak Lord, your servant is listening...*

### ***A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Matthew 6:6***

But whenever you pray, go into your room and shut the door  
and pray to your Father who is in secret; and your Father who  
sees in secret will reward you

## WE REFLECT

It is important to cultivate interiority and spirituality, often  
and with perseverance going into our inner room, shutting  
the door, and praying to our Father who is there unseen...  
This demands time, the right physical place and, above all,  
the desire, the thirst and the felt need to go within. It means  
experiencing silence. A silence that puts us in touch with the



deepest rhythms of our being and offers a better quality of life. A silence that gives us insight into the gift represented by each moment, each event and each encounter when viewed in the light of the Spirit, ever active and present.

- *Homes of Light, page 20*

Deep within us all there is an amazing inner sanctuary of the soul, a holy place, a Divine Centre, a speaking Voice, to which we may continually return.

- *Quaker Mystic, Thomas Kelly*

I have never been separate from God, nor can I be, except in my mind. In fact, why not stop reading now, and just breathe and let it sink in. It is crucial to know this experientially and at a cellular level – which is, in fact, a real way of knowing just as much as rational knowing.

- *The Universal Christ, Richard Rohr, page 44*

## WE RESPOND

Silence is where we best discover the fire that dwells inside us, this inner light that makes us feel at home. When we sense this light, fears disappear. In the silence of prayer, we are able to sense the intimate presence of God who dwells in our hearts.

- *Homes of Light, page 21*

## CLOSING PRAYER

God of love and light, relationship and mercy,  
may we look with eyes of love at all that this world offers.  
May we understand that we are children of the Cosmic Christ.  
And may we come to know ourselves and each other with  
infinite compassion.  
Amen.

Saint Marcellin Champagnat  
Saint Mary of the Cross MacKillop  
Mary Our Good Mother  
And let us always remember

*Pray for Us*  
*Pray for Us*  
*Pray for Us*  
*To Pray for One Another*

<sup>1</sup> Jennifer Wagner, 2020

<sup>2</sup> *Homes of Light: Caring for Life. Generating New Life. Circulars of the Superiors General of the Marist Brothers. Vol XXIII - Circular 420, 8 September 2020. H. Ernesto Sanchez Barba, Superior General*

<sup>3</sup> *The Universal Christ: How a Forgotten Reality Can Change Everything We See, Hope For, and Believe. Richard Rohr. Convergent Books. 2019.*

