Prayer of the Church Second Sunday in Lent (Reminiscere) 25 February 2024

Lord, You gave Abraham the promise of many descendants. Give us faith, that we may delight in this promise, delivered through the ages and kept in Christ, our Savior. Equip us with Your Spirit to be bold and unwavering witnesses, carrying Your name and Your Gospel to every place and people. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

O Lord, through patriarchs and prophets You spoke Your Word. Bless all pastors, that they may preach and teach faithfully. Raise up many new laborers for church-work vocations, and bless them as they prepare for this service in our colleges and seminaries. Give us ears to hear and hearts to imitate their faith and love. Lord, in Your mercy, hear our prayer.

Lord God of all nations, the disciples brought the cause of a Gentile woman to Your Son, the King of the Jews. Inspire the people of Your Church, grafted into Your holy people by faith, to bring the needs of the world to Your throne of grace. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

O Lord, our Father, You have adopted us into Your heavenly family as brothers of Your Son, Jesus Christ. Teach us, after the example of Jacob and Esau, to overcome brotherly strife in persistent prayer and with humility. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Shepherd of Israel, give steadfastness and wisdom to our leaders, especially Joseph, our president; Kim, our governor; and all congressmen, judges and civil servants. Grant peace between nations and a spirit of humility and concord to our citizens. Lord, in Your mercy, hear our prayer.

O Lord, You sent forth Your own Son to heal and give everlasting life. By Your Word and Spirit, lift up Your people from their sorrows and deliver them according to Your gracious will. Hear us, we pray. Sustain them in their afflictions, comfort them in the hour of death and raise up the dead according to Your gracious promise. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

O Lord, Your Son has set His table among us. Here He gives His flesh as food and His blood as drink to forgive our sins and to nourish our faith. Give us Your Spirit, that we may approach this Sacrament with faith and receive with repentant hearts the benefits of His Holy Communion. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Lord God, heavenly Father, we implore You by Your Holy Spirit to strengthen our hearts and confirm our faith and hope in Your grace and mercy. Although we have reason to fear for the sake of our conscience, our sin and our unworthiness, let us nevertheless hold fast, like the woman of Canaan, to Your grace. In every trial and temptation, let us find You a present help and refuge; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**