**Solemnity of St. Patrick, Patron of Ireland**

**Prayers of the Faithful**

**Celebrant:** ‘*In the course of a single day’* Patrick ‘*would say as many as a hundred prayers*’**.** We follow his example as we too turn to God in prayer.

1. As we celebrate the legacy of St Patrick our patron saint, may Pope Francis, bishops and priests faithfully lead the Church with wisdom and courage. **Lord, hear us.**
2. For vocations to priesthood and religious life: bless young people with the willingness of St. Patrick to generously answer his call to preach the Gospel. **Lord, hear us.**
3. For priests and religious from different parts of the world who are ministering in Ireland. Reward their sacrifices, sustain them through prayer, and enrich their ministry through the kindness of parishioners. **Lord, hear us.**
4. We pray for those who have followed in the footsteps of St Patrick as missionaries and as aid workers in developing countries; that God may bless their efforts to create a more just world. **Lord, hear us.**
5. For refugees and those seeking asylum across the world. May they experience welcome and hospitality as they strive to rebuild their lives. **Lord, hear us.**
6. We pray for people from other lands who have made their home in Ireland. May they enrich the fabric of our nation through the sharing of their cultures and traditions. **Lord, hear us.**
7. We pray for those who are sick, those who are distressed in mind, body or spirit, for the lonely and broken-hearted. Under God’s protection, may they receive healing and consolation. **Lord, hear us.**
8. For those who have died: may they find rest in the loving arms of the Father. **Lord, hear us.**

**Celebrant:** Loving Father, you search us and you know us. Help us to become your witness in the world today as we make these prayers through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**