

Prayers of the people

O God, we have been used to thinking of you as mighty and glorious,
and yet you came among us in the form of a servant:
hear the prayers we offer.

We give you thanks
that you come to us in weakness,
born into a race that was oppressed.
We pray for the peoples of the world:
for those crushed by war and violence,
for those broken by political oppression,
for those suffering hunger and thirst,
and particularly for asylum seekers detained on Manus and Nauru.

We pray for those who give themselves
in working for a more just world.
For those who govern,
we pray for wisdom, integrity
and a determination to seek the common good.

Help *us* also to set aside
our own sense of entitlement,
that we may follow in your footsteps
and stand in solidarity with the victims of injustice.

Help us to see

To follow you – crucified

We give you thanks that you come to us
in obedience and humility.

We pray for your worldwide church:
for church agencies
that care for the hungry and the homeless,
and those that care for children and the aged,
for UnitingWorld, Act for Peace, World Vision,
for the Salvos and Vinnies.

We pray for all who answer your call
and spend their lives in service.
Help *us* also to set aside
our desire for a comfortable life
and enable us to fulfil our mission
to bring your good news to the world.

Help us to see

To follow you - crucified

We give you thanks that you come to us
teaching us the ways of forgiveness and love.
We pray for the communities in which we live:
for our families and those we love,
for those with whom we share our daily lives,
for all the people of Sydney.
We pray for all who spend their lives
in making the community a happier, safer place.
We pray for the police, for ambos,
for the Sydney Alliance,
for all who volunteer their time to help others,
for Meals on Wheels, Surf Lifesaving, the SES and Lifeline volunteers.
Help *us* also to set aside
selfishness and stir in us a commitment
to the welfare of all.

Help us to see

To follow you - crucified

We give you thanks that you come to us
experiencing all the pains of human life.
We pray for all who need your tender consolation:
for those stripped of dignity and self-respect,
for those who are lost and lonely,
for those sick in body, heart or mind.
We pray for those spend their lives
in bringing comfort and healing to others.
Help *us* also to set aside self-interest and pride,
to give and receive care where needed,
and to grow in the ways of goodness and compassion.

Help us to see

To follow you – crucified.

Amen