**PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL**

**SUNDAY, MARCH 16, 2014**

1. In today's Gospel, God invites us to listen to Christ.  We pray that we might also listen to the cry of the poor and the injustices that they face in our world.  We pray that we may witness Christ in the poor, hear their calls and answer them.

We pray to the Lord R. Lord hear our prayer

1. As we mark his first anniversary as Pope, we give thanks to God for his Holiness Pope Francis who continuously calls us to love the poor.  Like Christ, he models for us an example of how one should love and be loved in our world

We pray to the Lord R. Lord hear our prayer

1. As we prepare for our national holiday, St Patrick’s Day, we pray that our celebrations should all be joyful ones and that the happiness of the day should not be ruined by excessive alcohol and drug abuse.

We pray to the Lord R. Lord hear our prayer

1. We welcome all visitors to our church, both those visiting families here and those who have come from abroad for St Patrick’s Day. We assure them that they are always welcome here in your Church and pray that you will bless them in their lives in the year ahead.

We pray to the Lord R. Lord hear our prayer

1. We remember in silence our own personal intentions and the intentions of those who have asked for our prayers

We pray to the Lord R. Lord hear our prayer

**ST PATRICKS DAY**

**MARCH 17, 2014**

1. On this St Patrick’s Day, we pray for all the people of Ireland, that they may be filled with the courage and spirituality of St Patrick and overcome the many challenges facing this country at this time.

We pray to the Lord R. Lord hear our prayer

1. We pray for Irish people all over the world, especially family and friends, that they may be kept safe from all harm and danger. We pray especially for those who are unable to return home for whatever reason and for those who are in difficulties and lonely in a faraway land.

We pray to the Lord R. Lord hear our prayer

1. We pray for those Irish people who have followed in the footsteps of St Patrick as missionaries and as volunteers in developing countries, that God may bless their efforts to create a more just world.

We pray to the Lord R. Lord hear our prayer

1. On this great national festival we welcome to our Church of the Assumption our many visitors, particularly those from abroad. We assure them that they are always welcome in your Church and pray that you will bless them in their lives in the year ahead.

We pray to the Lord R. Lord hear our prayer

1. As we celebrate the legacy of St Patrick, our patron saint, we pray that through his intercession, Pope Francis can lead us to a reform and renewal of our Church.

We pray to the Lord

1. We remember in silence our own personal intentions and the intentions of those who have asked for our prayers

We pray to the Lord R. Lord hear our prayer