

Intercessions for 9<sup>th</sup> March

1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Lent



**PRIEST:** Gracious God, you call us to worship today and remind us that Jesus refused the temptation to worship the evil one. We pray to you God, our refuge, our strength, the God in whom we trust, that you hear our prayers at this start of our Lenten journey.

**READER:**

That Pope Francis, elected as Bishop of Rome 12 years ago next Thursday, may be held in constant prayer by all in the Church as he struggles with critical health issues.

Lord in your mercy  
**Hear our prayer.**

That Jesus, the Prince of Peace, be close to all suffering in Palestine and Israel, in Ukraine and Russia, as in each place peace negotiations are at critical moment in history.

Lord in your mercy  
**Hear our prayer.**

That we all may enter sincerely into this time of Lent, be fervent in prayer, sincere in repentance, disciplined in sacrifices, as we approach the great feast to come.

Lord in your mercy  
**Hear our prayer.**

For those who are hungry, poor or homeless – give us the grace to respond with an open heart that safeguards their dignity and provides shelter, security and food.

Lord in your mercy  
**Hear our prayer.**

That all who are ill are blessed with your goodness and mercy, as you show your hope, comfort and love as always. And for those who have died that they are enjoying eternal rest.

Lord in your mercy  
**Hear our prayer.**

We ask Our Lady to intercede for us now as we say:

**Hail Mary ...**

Let us pray quietly for a few moments.

**PRIEST:** Almighty God, be merciful to us sinners, renew us in your Son Jesus, and let us walk confidently in the power of the Holy Spirit.  
Through Christ our Lord. **Amen**