

Celebrant

All mothers, and women are invited to come to the front of the sanctuary to receive a blessing through prayer and the laying on of hands.

Let us pray:

Lord, we thank you for the gift of motherhood. We thank you for the many examples of faithful mothers in scripture, like Sarah, Hannah, and Elizabeth. Hear now the first names of other women who have inspired us by their motherly examples (*Please state the name of your mother out loud*). We are mindful this day of all these women, and especially Mary, the mother of our Lord Jesus Christ, who had the courage in faith to say “yes” to your calling. May these women gathered here today emulate these examples of faith and may they model for the rest of us what it means to be your disciple. Bless them on this special day, in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.



PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE **Holy Faith Episcopal Church, Port St. Lucie, FL.** **MOTHERS' DAY**

Christ is present with us, in us, and through us. In faith, let us offer the prayers of our hearts, as we set our trust and hope on God, and as we celebrate all Mothers on this day, saying: Lord in your mercy. **Hear our prayer.**

Loving God, we give thanks today for mothers. Thank you for mothers who gave birth to us, and the women who have treated us as their own children. Lord in your mercy. **Hear our prayer.**

We thank you for the women who raised us, who were our mothers in childhood, whether birth mom, adopted mom, older sister, aunt, grandmother, stepmother, or someone else. We thank you for those women who held us and fed us, who cared for us and kissed away our pain. We pray that our lives may reflect the love they showed us, and that they would be pleased to be called our moms. Lord in your mercy. **Hear our prayer.**

Help all your people to know the gift of a mother's love, in and through whatever manifestation you offer it, and continue to show us your love through all who are mothers to us. Lord in your mercy. **Hear our prayer.**

We pray for new mothers coming to terms with both the joys and demands of motherhood; for pregnant mothers, expectant, wondering, or fearful; for those mothers who are tired, stressed, ill, or depressed; for those who struggle to balance the demands of work and children; for those who have to struggle with difficult decisions about whether or not to become a mother or to have another child. Lord in your mercy. **Hear our prayer.**

We pray for those who are unable to feed their children due to poverty; for those whose children have physical, mental, or

emotional disabilities; for those who have children they do not want; for those who raise children on their own; for those who have lost a child through death. Lord in your mercy. **Hear our prayer.**

We pray for those whose children have left home; for those whose children have rejected their love; and for those whose desire to be a mother has not been fulfilled. Lord in your mercy. **Hear our prayer.**

We pray for those who may have suffered abuse, neglect, or emotional harm, who remember with joy being mothered by a broader community of women, and for those who have experienced, or are in the midst of grief for the loss of a mother or mother figure. Lord in your mercy. **Hear our prayer.**

We pray for mothers who are in our Armed Forces defending freedom in the nation and around the world. Lord in your mercy. **Hear our prayer.**

We pray for Katharine, our presiding bishop; Gregory, our bishop; Orlando, our vicar; and Bill, Burnet, Pepe, and Jamie, our retired clergy, that they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments. Lord in your mercy. **Hear our prayer.**

We pray, O Lord, for our families and for our neighbors, and for all those whom you have placed upon our hearts this day. Hear the prayers of thanksgiving and intercession we make for them and on account of them in our hearts and in our minds and with the words of our lips at this time. We pray especially for Wayne, Trevor, Fr. Pepe, Pat, Margarita, Cecilia, Marilyn, Natalie, Paul, Haycinth, Michael, Vicky, and those on our parish prayer list. Lord in your mercy. **Hear our prayer.**

We pray today, O Lord, for those who have no one to pray for them this day. You know them, and we offer them up to you so

that their lives may be touched by you. We especially pray for the homeless, the hungry, the oppressed, and the ignored. Lord in your mercy. **Hear our prayer.**

Welcome into your eternal banquet those who have died, especially Ennis (Lady Bird) Johnson. Lord in your mercy. **Hear our prayer.**

Lord Jesus, grant your blessing upon members of this parish who are celebrating birthdays this week, especially Ana Lucía, Andy, Carmen, Alan, Rohan, Randolph, y José. We also pray for members of this parish celebrating anniversary this week, that they may rejoice with your love and peace. Lord in your mercy. **Hear our prayer.**

We pray, O Lord, for our men and women of our Armed Forces, saying:

Almighty God, we commend to your gracious care and keeping all the men and women of our armed forces at home and abroad, especially: _____. Defend them day by day with your heavenly grace; strengthen them in their trials and temptations; give them courage to face the perils, which beset them; and grant them a sense of your abiding presence wherever they may be.

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

Lord, we pray for those who reach out in our church and our community to minister to others your healing presence. We pray for those who listen -- for those who counsel - for those who share your word -- for all those who break bread with us and give you thanks. Bless them in their love that they may ever more fully experience the love that they share. Lord in your mercy. **Hear our prayer.**