

Prayers of the Faithful – Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross 13/14 September 2025

Celebrant: To introduce

Response: Lord graciously hear us

This weekend we celebrate the great feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross. We commemorate the cross upon which Christ died for us. Christ's cross is the symbol of human misery and simultaneously divine mercy. We ask today that we and all in our Universal Catholic church reflect that example of divine mercy in our work and our lives.

Lord hear us....

Jesus Christ suffered the ultimate in human misery by being put to death on the cross. People around the world, in war torn countries like Gaza, Ukraine and Sudan, among many others, are suffering the same misery inflicted by their fellow human beings. We pray for all those suffering and for the inflictors of that suffering that they come to realise what they are doing. **Lord hear us...**

Christ's life and death on the cross showed us how to love. We pray for opportunities to follow His example, even in small ways, by helping our friends and neighbours. One kind deed begets another and the love engendered grows. We pray for help to be kind. **Lord hear us**

We pray for carers, the unsung quiet ones, at home, looking after their family members with love and patience. The work can be hard and unrewarding, often unrecognised. These carers and those for whom they care are living Christ's message of love and mirroring His suffering on the cross. **Lord hear us**

Let us pray for the dying. Not merely for those among our family and friends but for those dying dreadful and humiliating deaths like Christ did. Those being tortured to death, those dying under the rubble of buildings fallen and destroyed in war. Those dying suddenly in natural disasters. Those dying alone with no one by them, in lonely rooms or tents on the street who have no one who even knows they are dying. **Lord hear us ...**

Please take a moment to pray for your own special intentions this week.

Mary, Christ's mother watched Him die. We say the Hail Mary with her for all mothers who are watching their children die now. **Hail Mary full of grace**

Celebrant to conclude.

Amen