



Liturgical Resources in Preparation for the Assembly of the  
Federation of Catholic Bishops Conferences of Oceania  
*Fiji, 5-10 February 2023*

### **PRAYER FOR THE ASSEMBLY**

O God, you revealed yourself in Christ Jesus  
as loving, merciful and just.

Guide our Bishops of Oceania as they meet together  
to further Pope Francis' call to become a listening Church.

Open their hearts to the voice of the Holy Spirit,  
that they might truly discern and faithfully serve  
the needs of your People and your World.

Colour our way of life and give witness to your presence among us.  
You who live and reign, God, for ever and ever. Amen.



## **GENERAL INTERCESSIONS**

*The prayers of intercession below are proposed to be included for liturgical celebrations each Sunday in preparation for the Assembly.*

### **Advent, Week 1**

For our Holy Father, Pope Francis, as he encourages all peoples to respect one another and the world that supports all life. May he know our support and especially that of our Oceania Bishops, preparing for their February meeting in Fiji. We pray to the Lord:

### **Advent, Week 2**

The October 2023 Synod of Bishops in Rome will face issues raised by the People of God throughout the World. The Bishops who serve us in the Oceania region will be part of this Synod. May they have a deep understanding of our concerns and represent us with dignity and courage. We pray to the Lord:

### **Advent, Week 3**

We continue to pray for Pope Frances and our Oceania bishops as they listen attentively to the whisperings of the Holy Spirit. May they bring joy to your People, by their inspiration and loving care. We pray to the Lord:

### **Advent, Week 4**

We pray ourselves, the People of God. Serving one another with joyful hope, may we grow in faith and love. With a profound respect for the variety of gifts that adorn us, may we each play our part for the good of all. We pray to the Lord:

### **The Nativity of the Lord**

May Mary, Mother of the Body of Christ, embrace us with her maternal love. We ask that she place the mantle of your care over those chosen to serve as Bishops. Be their strength and comfort as they help to discern the way ahead for God's People. We pray to the Lord:

### **The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph**

Jesus, Mary and Joseph, as a family, they protected one another. Be with those chosen and called to be guardians of the People of God. We pray especially for

our Bishops in Oceania. Strengthen them to speak and act for the voiceless and powerless. We pray to the Lord:

### **Solemnity of Mary, Holy Mother of God**

Mary, Mother of the Church, encouraged the Apostles to be ambassadors of peace and reconciliation. Together with the Apostles' successors, may we faithfully continue their mission. We pray to the Lord:

### **The Epiphany of the Lord**

For all the members of your Body, the Church, especially our bishops who will soon be gathering in Fiji, that we take seriously our mission to bring others to the light of faith and to strengthen them in that faith. We pray to the Lord:

### **Second Sunday in Ordinary Time**

For the People of God in every place, especially here in the Oceania region: that, baptised into the life of Christ, all will delight to follow the command of Jesus to love one another as he has loved us. We pray to the Lord:

### **Third Sunday in Ordinary Time**

We give thanks for the truth and beauty of your creation. With our Bishops, preparing for this year's Synod, may we listen to the Cry of the Earth and the Cry of the Poor and work to be worthy of your many gifts. We pray to the Lord:

### **Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

As the Bishops of Australia, Papua New Guinea and the Solomons, the Pacific Islands and Aotearoa New Zealand make final preparations for their meeting in Fiji, that the Holy Spirit will fill them with wisdom and courage to accomplish their work on behalf of us all. We pray to the Lord:

### **Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

Today, our Bishops begin their deliberations in Fiji, on matters to be formally part of the October Synod in Rome. We have accompanied their preparation with our prayers. Like Mary, may they ponder deeply the responsibility they hold, and find strength and confidence in knowing they are not alone. We pray to the Lord: