

FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY (C)

Bidding Prayers

Presider: Now let us draw near to God in prayer
and lay before him our needs and the needs of all the world.

Deacon or Reader:

- 1 For parents longing for a child – like Hannah in the First Reading,
and for couples and children awaiting adoption.
May God bless their love.
Lord, in your mercy. **R. Hear our prayer.**
- 2 For the children and teenagers who've been orphaned in Gaza,
and for the parents whose children have been killed or maimed in the war.
May the nations of the world put aside the weapons of war and violence,
and together seek peace and goodwill for all.
Lord, in your mercy. **R. Hear our prayer.**
- 3 For parents bringing up children on their own,
and for children who are missing a parent;
for families struggling to live together,
and for family members who feel alienated or rejected.
Lord, in your mercy. **R. Hear our prayer.**
- 4 For the older members of our community who can no longer come to church,
many of whom spend their days in prayer.
Let us pray too for those who may feel forgotten in care homes.
Lord, in your mercy. **R. Hear our prayer.**
- 5 For our own personal intentions.
For Joan Flannagan, Cathy Spencer and Jean Birmingham who have died.
For those we have been asked to remember this weekend,
especially Nadine Davies, the children of Gaza
and all the people of this parish community.
(Pause for silent prayer)
Lord, in your mercy. **R. Hear our prayer.**
- 6 Now let us ask Mary, the mother of Jesus and wife of Joseph, to pray for us all:
"Hail Mary..."

Presider: Lord, bless our love.
Grant that we may praise rather than criticise,
sympathise rather than condemn,
give rather than receive,
so that our homes may become places
where your love and peace reign.
Through Christ our Lord.