



03 April 2022
Fifth Sunday of Lent



INTRODUCTION:

Isaiah and Paul both speak to the exiled people in Babylon and to the Christians of Philippi that they are not to remember what lies behind, but move forward, as God is going to do a new thing. This is powerfully demonstrated in Jesus' encounter with the woman caught in adultery. It is an invitation to us also, that we are to live a life free from sin, as we journey towards Easter.

READINGS:

First Reading: Isaiah 43:16-21

Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 126:1-2ab, 2cd-3, 4-5, 6

Second Reading: Philippians 3:8-14

Gospel: John 8:1-11

PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL:

CELEBRANT: The Lord lovingly seeks out those lost in sin, to lead them out into the newness of life, he gained for us through his Passion and Death. Full of confidence, we bring to the Lord, our intentions.

Our response is: **LOVING LORD, HEAR OUR PRAYER**

1. For the Church and all its leaders: that each of us may strive to bring forgiveness and comfort to the broken hearts, and those who have strayed away from God, we pray...
2. For all civil and political leaders: that they may move away from judging and condemning others, but rather through their honest dealings, assist everyone to rise to a new and better life, we pray...
3. For the ongoing war in Ukraine: that prayers rising to the Lord from all over the world, may bring about a lasting peace and reconciliation, permitting the people to rebuild their broken lives, we pray...
4. For all students in schools and colleges: that the ongoing examinations, may be an occasion not of stress, but a meaningful exercise to benefit them to move ahead in their academic lives, we pray...
5. For catechumens in the final stage of their preparation: that they may appreciate the gift of faith they are to receive, and inspire all the faithful to renew their baptismal commitment to the Lord, we pray...
6. For our personal needs and intentions [pause], we pray...

CELEBRANT: God of unconditional love and forgiveness, give us grace to rise from our sins and wrongdoings to a life of grace, as we too offer understanding and pardon to all we meet. We ask this through Christ Our Lord.

Amen.

PRAYER FOR RELIEF FROM THE CORONA VIRUS:

Almighty and merciful God, who show Your love to all creation everywhere, hear graciously the prayers we make for all those affected by the Corona Virus in various parts of the world.

We come before You asking for an efficacious control of the outbreak, for a healing of those affected, for the victims and their families.

We thank You for blessing the efforts of our research scientists working on the development of a vaccine. We pray that these vaccines will be effective in combating the virus and its mutants, and in controlling the spread of the pandemic. We pray that the vaccine be available for all our people even the poor and those in rural areas.

We pray for doctors, nurses and health workers who are in the frontline of this battle, that they be kept safe and have the strength and courage to continue their heroic efforts.

We pray for the Government and health authorities that they take appropriate steps for the good of the people. We make this prayer through Christ our Lord. Amen.