INTRODUCTION:

Peter's profession of faith is what we are all called to echo through our lives as disciples of Jesus. Jesus is the Christ, the Son of the Living God and as the Church we profess this belief as we make him known to the world. May this Eucharist we celebrate nourish our lives as witnesses of God's mercy in Jesus.

First Readings: Is 22: 19- 23
Responsorial Psalm: Ps 138: 1- 2a, 2bcd- 3, 6 & 8bc
Second Reading: Rom 11: 33- 36
Gospel: Mt 16: 13- 20

PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL:

CELEBRANT: God's merciful love is eternal and we entrust our needs before Him with faith. **OUR RESPONSE: LORD, LISTEN TO OUR PRAYERS.**

For the Holy Father, the successor of St Peter, the Bishops, Priests, Religious and the lay faithful; that we may be inspired by the Holy Spirit to proclaim the Good News, to serve the Church to the best of our abilities and to promote unity among all God's children… we pray to the Lord. **R/**

For all our political leaders; that their leadership may promote equality, justice, unity and peace… we pray to the Lord. **R/**

For all of us gathered for this Eucharistic celebration; that we may always profess our faith in Christ, Son of the living God as we love, serve and witness to his mercy as a Church united in mission… we pray to the Lord. **R/**

For our children and youth; that they may willingly follow Jesus, the Son of the living God in the midst of all the valueless attractions and destructive distractions that they struggle with… we pray to the Lord. **R/**

For the prayers we now make with faith; especially for peace in violence affected parts of the world… *(Pause for 7 seconds)*… we pray to the Lord. **R/**

CELEBRANT: Gracious Lord, we are grateful to You for listening to the prayers we have made with faith in Your generosity and mercy through Christ your Son who lives and reigns with You in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God forever and ever. Amen.