

**Week of Prayer for Christian Unity**  
**Ko te Wā Karakia mō te Kotahitanga o Ngā Hāhi Karaitiana**  
**13-20 May 2018**  
**Prayers for use at Mass**

**Ascension Sunday: You shall also love the stranger, for you were strangers in the land of Egypt**

Eternal God, you belong to no culture and land but are Lord of all, you call us as Christians to welcome the stranger in our midst. Help us by your Spirit, to live as brothers and sisters, welcoming all in your name, and living in the justice of your kingdom. This we pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

**Monday: No longer as a slave but a beloved brother**

Gracious God, draw near to those who are victims of human trafficking, assuring them that you see their plight and hear their cry. May your Church be united in compassion and courage to work for that day when no one will be exploited and all will be free to live lives of dignity and peace. This we pray in the name of the Triune God who can do immeasurably more than we can ask or imagine. Amen.

**Tuesday: Your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit**

By your heavenly grace, O God, restore us in mind and body, create in us a clean heart and a pure mind, that we may give glory to your Name. May the churches attain unity of purpose for the sanctification of your people, through Jesus Christ who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, for ever and ever. Amen.

**Wednesday: Hope and Healing**

God of all comfort and hope, your resurrection defeated the violence of the cross. As your Christian people, may we be a visible sign that the violence of the world will be overcome. This we pray in the name of our risen Lord. Amen.

**Thursday: Hark, the cry of my poor people from far and wide in the land!**

Loving God, you lift up the poor and distressed, and restore their dignity.  
Hear now our cries for the poor of our world,  
restore their hope and lift them up, that all your people may be one.  
This we pray in Jesus name. Amen.

**Friday: Let us look to the interests of others**

Almighty God, give courage and strength to your church  
to continually proclaim justice and righteousness  
in situations of domination and oppression.  
As we celebrate our unity in Christ,  
may your Holy Spirit help us to look to the needs of others. Amen.

**Saturday: Building family in household and church**

Gracious God, you sent your son to be born in an ordinary family  
with ancestors who were both faithful and sinful.  
We ask your blessing upon all families, households and communities.  
We pray especially for the unity of the Christian family  
so that the world may believe.  
In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

**Pentecost Sunday: He will gather the dispersed... from the four corners of the earth**

Lord, we humbly ask that, by your grace, the churches throughout the world  
may become instruments of your peace.  
Through their joint action as ambassadors and agents of your healing, reconciling  
love among divided peoples,  
may your Name be hallowed and glorified. Amen.