

# Prayers of the Faithful: First Sunday of Lent

## March 9/10th

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**PRIEST:** *My dear friends, in this season of Lent we unite ourselves with Christ as he fasted in the desert and was tempted by the devil. Let us ask God for grace and perseverance in our life of penance.*

**FAITHFUL:**

Please help Pope Francis and all the clerical and lay leaders of the Church, resist the temptation to denial, accept Church failings of the past, refute falsehoods and proclaim and live the true message of Jesus.....**LORD HEAR US**

As we journey through Lent, may we each and every one of us accept our own frailties, acknowledge our sins and rejoice in God's mercy, forgiveness and never-ending love and compassion.....**LORD HEAR US**

For our sisters and brothers around the world who have experienced abuse and suffering at the hands of those who were meant to provide care and succour, we offer our permanent sorrow, personal repentance and prayers for healing.....**LORD HEAR US**

May we be grateful for all we have in our little part of the world and give generously to Caritas whose people do such vital work for those who have so little.....**LORD HEAR US**

As we articulate the huge changes required of our Church in the light of the Royal Commission, and in the spirit of the Plenary Council, we pray for forgiveness for the sins committed by Church authorities and all associated with our Church.....**LORD HEAR US.**

We pray for our own special intentions..... (pause)..... **LORD HEAR US**

We pray for everyone who is seriously ill or injured, for those fighting injustice, for all the faithful departed, especially those whose anniversaries occur about this time..... **LORD HEAR US**

*Teofila and Ludwik Dralus*

**PRIEST:** *Lord God, for forty days your Son fasted in the desert and prepared for his struggle with the powers of darkness. By our forty days of self-denial help us to share Christ's victory over sin and to rise with him to a life that is new. We ask this through Christ our Lord.*

**AMEN**