28th Sunday in Ordinary Time | Year B | 13th October 2024

Support Life Sunday – Day of Prayer to Support Life

**Welcome before Mass**:

Tēnā koutou katoa – haere mai. Welcome! Today is the 28th Sunday of Ordinary Time. It is also **Support Life Sunday**, an annual Day of Prayer to reflect on the sacredness of all life. The theme this year highlights the infinite God-given dignity of each and every person, reminding us to promote a consistent ethic of life from conception, throughout life, and at the end of life. Let us take a few moments of silence to prepare for this liturgy. (10 seconds of silence)

Together now, we join, sing, and celebrate our unity in Christ and with each other.

**Prayer of the Faithful**

**For the Church – the Body of Christ** – that we will recognise and stand up against the many grave violations against human dignity that affect our families, our communities, our country and our world.

(Silence) **Reader:** E te Ariki **All:** whakarongo mai rā ki a mātou

**For the world’s leaders** – that they will promote peace and reconciliation to end the wars that bring destruction, trauma, poverty, illness, disability and death to so many.
(Silence) **Reader:** E te Ariki **All:** whakarongo mai rā ki a mātou

**For those who govern our country** – that they will enact policies to end the poverty and deprivation that affects so many who struggle to access adequate food, housing, heating and healthcare.

(Silence) **Reader:** E te Ariki **All:** whakarongo mai rā ki a mātou

**For those who accompany people at the beginning and end of life** – that their caring presence will promote life and dignity, bring consolation and hope, and be a constant sign of God’s infinite love.

(Silence) **Reader:** E te Ariki **All:** whakarongo mai rā ki a mātou

**For health professionals, social workers, volunteers and family care-givers** – that God’s gifts of wisdom and insight will inspire and encourage them as they accompany people in times of fragility and vulnerability.

(Silence) **Reader:** E te Ariki **All:** whakarongo mai rā ki a mātou

**For the survivors of abuse in care** – that they may find healing and wholeness and that we may act wisely, courageously and justly to bring about the changes required to create a safe Church for all.

(Silence) **Reader:** E te Ariki **All:** whakarongo mai rā ki a mātou

**For ourselves** – that where we see that there are threats to life or dignity, we will find the courage to act through our unshaken faith that, with God, all things are possible.

(Silence) **Reader:** E te Ariki **All:** whakarongo mai rā ki a mātou

**For our local community of … (What are the needs of your locality – housing, health, accident… Please discern the needs of your locality and compose a petition.)**

(Silence) **Reader:** E te Ariki **All:** whakarongo mai rā ki a mātou

**For those who have died – insert names …** that they may know the consolation of eternal life**…**

**Concluding Prayer**

God of all kindness, we ask you to fill us with your love as we seek your wisdom and endeavour to uphold human dignity.

Let your saving work bring us to share your glory in everlasting life.

We make this prayer through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**