



Appendix 1 Intercessory Prayers

- Week 1 For the Plenary Council: As we begin our parish journey, Lord, grant us the courage to speak boldly and the ability to listen humbly and always with a heart open to what the Spirit wants for the Church. Lord hear us.
- Week 2 For the Plenary Council: Lord, we pray that you accompany us on this pathway and grant that the preparation and celebration of the Plenary Council may renew the Church and make it humbler and more hopeful and beautiful. Lord hear us.
- Week 3 For the Plenary Council: As we commence our Listening and Dialogue small groups, help us to become a synodal Church that listens, and realises that listening “is more than simply hearing”. We pray that we listen deeply to one another and that the stories of our faith and the Church transform our hearts. Lord hear us.
- Week 4 For the Plenary Council: In our Listening and Dialogue, give us wisdom so that we may each profoundly answer the question, “What do you think God is asking of us in Australia at this time?” Help us to put aside our own egos and issues to hear God’s voice as we try to “listen to what the Spirit is saying”. Lord hear us.
- Week 5 For the Plenary Council: Lord, encourage and strengthen us when our dialogue gets messy and we cannot see where the Spirit is leading us. May we come to appreciate that this is often the way the Spirit works. Lord hear us.
- Week 6 For the Plenary Council: Lord, may we appreciate that listening means being able to share questions and doubts, to journey side by side, to banish all claims to absolute power and to put our abilities and gifts at the service of the common good. Lord hear us.
- Week 7 For the Plenary Council: Lord, as we continue to prepare for our Plenary Council, help us to reach out beyond ourselves to engage the voices of others: young people, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, the poor, the unemployed, the LGBT community, and those who are disillusioned or have been hurt by the Church. Lord hear us.
- Week 8 For the Plenary Council: As we come together as a parish community to respond, Jesus, give us more profound faith, greater courage, deeper spirituality and the ability to discern. Lord hear us.