**Bidding Prayers for Ash Wednesday 2 March 2022**

**Fr Rory** God of each moment, on this Ash Wednesday, we commit this season of Lent to you, as we remember your journey in the wilderness.

Reader We pray for the Church, Pope Francis, his cardinals, bishops, parish priests, deacons and all who have given their lives to the service of God. May they reflect and steer their energies, during Lent, bringing new and fresh ideas for the future of our church.

**Fr. Rory** **Lord hear us. Lord graciously hear us**.

Reader We pray for those suffering in many different ways, but especially, we hold the people of Ukraine in our prayers, that they may feel our strength, as they cope under extreme conditions of conflict.

**Fr Rory** **Lord hear us. Lord graciously hear us.**

Reader We pray for members of this parish. Let the giving of ashes today, be a sign to us, that material things will disappear, enabling us to give more attention to the intervention of the Holy Spirit.

**Fr. Rory** **Lord hear us. Lord graciously hear us.**

Reader We think of, and pray for those who have died, and for the families and friends, who are facing life without them; may they feel our loving thoughts and prayers.

**Fr. Rory Lord hear us. Lord graciously hear us.**

Reader Let us pray in silence for our own private intentions.

Reader Mary’s life was filled with prayer. Let us remember her example as we say, Hail Mary full of grace . . .

**Fr. Rory** At the beginning of this Lenten season, help us, dear Lord, as we make our preparations to celebrate your coming Resurrection.