**Bidding Prayers Sunday 26 February 2023 – First Sunday of Lent**

**Father Let us pray to the Lord, together, and make the effort this Lent, to be free for God, our families and for each other.**

***Lord hear us. Lord graciously hear us.***

**Reader We pray for our Holy Father Pope Francis, his Cardinals, Bishops, Priests, Deacons and all in the religious life. Give them the strength to follow their vocations, in this challenging world.**

***Lord hear us. Lord graciously hear us.***

**Reader We pray for those affected by the earthquake in Southern Turkey and Northern Syria, which has devastated thousands of lives. At the same time, however, we give thanks for the aid already given, and the promises of help that have been generously made, by many nations.**

***Lord hear us. Lord graciously hear us.***

**Reader We pray for those suffering from the effects of the war in Ukraine. May they feel the love, admiration and support of their allies throughout the world.**

***Lord hear us Lord graciously hear us.***

**Reader Let us pray for the homeless, in this still, very cold weather,**

**In the hope that they may be offered the shelter they need.**

***Lord hear us. Lord graciously hear us.***

**Reader Let us pray for all who suffer domestic violence, that they may be heard , and thus enabled, to live safer and more loving lives.**

***Lord hear us Lord graciously hear us.***

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

***Lord hear us. Lord graciously hear us.***

**Reader We pray to our Mother Mary as we say Hail Mary full of grace …**

**Father God our Father, we have prayed to you for so many intersessions. We include ourselves too, for we are weak and fallible. Touch us with your love and protect us all, through**

**Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.**