

Pastoral Prayer
March 29, 2026

Creator God,

Forgive us, we pray, because when we take in the majesty of your Creation, the wonder of your might, and the subtle and stunning range of your art, we respond most often to compete, not to appreciate. You made us like you, and like you we create, but all too often we exercise power with self-interest. We make art as self-indulgence. We imitate your majesty by denigrating other people and your Creation itself.

Forgive us, O God.

Guide us to the example you set us in Jesus. May we be inspired by his humility, his compassion, his grace. If we must be intolerant, may we refuse to tolerate people who take advantage of others, especially under the cloak of religiosity. Most of all, may we be inspired to follow him in loving your people and your world even when the shadows of anger, fear, and violence draw close.

We thank you for Jesus' faithfulness, in which you have promised us life.

Bring your life to the places in the world where life and light are in short supply. Comfort those still reeling from disaster in these islands. Guide those who work to help them. Hear those who cry, "Help us!" around the world, crying from homes and shops, factories and farms, basements and battlefields. Help us to hear those cries as well, and to bring timely help as best we can.

In Jesus name we pray,

Amen.