

Good morning/evening, everyone.

My name is _____, and I warmly welcome you to Mass here at St. Mark's.

Today's readings remind us of the dignity of work and our call to live responsibly as followers of Christ. As Christians, we are invited to follow the example of Jesus and the apostles — not living off others, but living for others through honest labour, quiet faithfulness, and a spirit of service.

We begin our Mass with an Acknowledgement of Country.

St Mark's respectfully acknowledges the past and present traditional owners of this land on which we come together, to celebrate the Jagerra people. We remember the many footprints that have gone before us on this land and waterways. We are thankful to be praying and gathering on Jagerra country.

Please stand for the entrance hymn.

Priest: Dear friends, with mercy in our hearts, let us bring our intentions before God.

Reader: That our Holy Father Pope Leo XIV. will faithfully lead the Church in times of uncertainty and opposition. *(pause) Lord Hear Us*

Reader: That war and fighting will be ended through justice and peace. *(pause) Lord Hear Us*

Reader: That those who seek employment will be aided by a community that is generous and caring. *(pause) Lord Hear Us*

Reader: That our parish community will bear witness to the Word of God and the coming of Christ. *(pause) Lord Hear Us*

Reader: That the sick and housebound will be blessed with peace. *(pause) Lord Hear Us*

Reader: That those who have died will be rewarded for their faithfulness and take their place with God. *(pause) Lord Hear Us*

Priest: Loving God, we seek your merciful wisdom in all we do. Hear our prayers and help us to always live with justice and goodness in our hearts as we look forward to the coming of your Son. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.

