



### *A Journey through the Mass...*

*Greetings brothers and sisters, as we continue on our journey together through the Mass, this week we'll look at 'the Prayer of the Faithful' - (Universal Prayer)*

In the 'Prayer of the Faithful', we stand to pray as a community of brothers and sisters, offering up our *united* prayer to God our Father. Intercessory prayer is a very powerful way for us to intercede for all of humanity. We lift up to God the needs that we, as a community, feel important to share with our Loving God. We believe God hears and responds for the good of those for whom we pray. Jesus encourages to pray in this manner when He tells us: "*Ask and you shall receive*". As a general rule, our petitions will include prayers for; the needs of the Church, for public authorities and the salvation of the whole world, for those burdened by any kind of difficulty, for the local community, and here at St. Charles Borromeo, we always include prayers for the sick in our community and for members of our community who have recently gone home to the Lord. One aspect of the Prayer of the Faithful that I always find so important, is to really look at what is happening in our community, our Nation and our World, the events and tragedies that can occur in our day to day living, often times weigh very heavy on our hearts, so it's important that we hold one another up in these moments. The Prayer of the Faithful are truly that, our prayers, they come from us, the faithful, united as both local and universal Church. When we pray in this way, we recognize and take our place within the larger community of all the baptized in the world as we pray together, **'Lord Hear Our Prayer'**.

*Love & Blessings,  
Deacon Ryan*

