

Intercessory Prayers
Stronger Together
Palm Sunday, 29 March 2026
(For school assembly or class prayer/reflection activity)

The response to the bidding, 'Come, our God' is: 'Unite us in your love.'

Let us pray:

1. O God you welcome the stranger

Hear our prayer for people forced to cross borders
separated from those they love and their homelands.

You came close to us in Christ Jesus when we were far off

Help us choose shared humanity over "us and them".

B: Come, our God,

R: Unite us in your love.

2. O God you stand with people who are hurting

Hear our prayer for those trapped in refugee camps,
Without safety or access to clean water, food, medicine, education,
In Bangladesh, Kenya, Jordan, Sudan, and especially in Indonesia.
May we not turn away but draw near in solidarity.

B: Come, our God,

R: Unite us in your love.

3. O God you heal wounds seen and unseen

Hear our prayer for the people seeking asylum who Australia shuns
After fleeing violence or persecution who came seeking safety in this land.
We confess our part in systems that reject refugees and consign them indefinitely to Nauru and PNG.
Grant us courage to act together for justice and mercy,

B: Come, our God,

R: Unite us in your love.

4. O God you shine light in places of uncertainty,

We pray for those in the dark waiting in limbo
Because of slow assessment of their protection applications
We pray for fast and fair processing of claims for refugee status
May we be a community that welcomes them into our shared future.

B: Come, our God,

R: Unite us in your love.

5. O God you remember those others forget

We ask your forgiveness for the times we have forgotten the stranger, the widow and the orphan, and for our failure to speak up for justice on their behalf.

We bring before you people on bridging visas or no visas

Living without basic income support, employment or the opportunity to undertake tertiary study.

Open our eyes to families, women and children who are pushed to the margins, and help us stand side-by-side with them.

B: Come, our God,

R: Unite us in your love.

6. O God you strengthen the weary

We give thanks for the resilience, strength and contributions of refugees and people seeking asylum in Australia, and others who migrate here to make a better life and become Australians with us.

Strengthen refugee leaders as they lead and support their communities and help us walk alongside them, and speak up for their rights.

B: Come, our God,

R: Unite us in your love.

PAUSE FOR SILENT PRAYER

In a moment of silence, we bring to mind the people, concerns and hopes in our hearts.

7. O God you open hearts and unite communities

Send your Spirit among us, soften our hard hearts.

Make us people of empathy, compassion and committed action.

With the communion of Saints, refugees, the vulnerable and those in need in our own immediate circles, neighbourhoods, and beyond,

We pray that you unite us in your love

Through Christ Jesus Our Lord.

Amen

At this point, you might invite students to come to the front to light a candle, or to write a short wish about strengthening the social fabric and building community, and tie it onto a wishing tree.

Source: Audrey Statham, 2026