**Prayer in time of drought**

In the section of the Missal entitled “Masses and Prayers for Various Needs and Occasion” are four special prayers for Australia. They are collects to be used in times of bushfires, drought, flood and cyclone. As farmers struggle to cope with the worsening drought and we repeatedly see images on TV of pastures turned to dustbowls and cattle that are no more than skin and bone, the prayer in time of drought is especially relevant. Besides being included in Masses, this collect could be made available for parishioners to use in their personal prayer.

O God, Lord of all creation,

by whose power the whole earth came to be,

look upon our parched land, we pray,

and bestow upon it abundant rain,

that pastures, fields and paddocks

may by your goodness thrive once more.

Other prayers in time of drought

God our Creator,

from your womb the whole earth was born.

Embrace our dry and dying land

and nourish it with soaking rain

that pastures, fields and paddocks

may once again be filled with life.

We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

All things look to you, O Lord,   
to give them their food in due season:   
look in mercy on your people,   
and hear our prayer for those whose lives and possessions   
are threatened by drought.   
In your mercy restore your creation and heal our land.   
So guide and bless your people,   
that we may enjoy the fruits of the earth   
and give you thanks with grateful hearts,   
through our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

A prayer for rain

God our heavenly Father   
through your Son you promised   
to those seeking first your kingdom   
and your righteousness   
all things necessary for bodily welfare:   
send us, we pray, in this time of need,   
rain to water the earth,   
that we may receive its produce   
to strengthen and sustain us   
and always praise you for your bounty;   
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.