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**Mass for Persecuted Christians**

**Entrance Hymn:**

Be thou my vision…

**First Reading:**

Isaiah 41:8-10, 13-14

Lectionary Vol III page 547

**Responsorial Psalm:**

Ps 122:1-2 Alternative response V.2

Lectionary Vol III page 547-8

**Second Reading:**

Philippians 1:27-30

Lectionary Vol III page 554

**Gospel Acclamation:**

James 1:12

Lectionary Vol III page 558 No 3

**Gospel:**

Matthew 10:26-33

Lectionary Vol III page 558

**Bidding Prayers:**

*See below.*

**Presentation of the Gifts:**

The King of love my shepherd is…

**Communion:**

Make me a channel of your peace…

**Recessional:**

At the name of Jesus… perhaps verses 1, 2 and 6

**Intercessions**

**Celebrant:** Turning to God in faith and trust, we pray for the needs of the Church and of the world.

**Reader:** Let us pray for the Universal Church, for our Holy Father, Pope Francis, our Archbishops, Bishops, Sisters and all those who serve the Church. Lord in your mercy: **R/*Hear our prayer****.*

Let us pray for Aid to the Church in Need and its work with persecuted and other suffering Christians throughout the world, especially children who have been made refugees or left displaced by war. Lord in your mercy: **R/*Hear our prayer****.*

Let us pray for the Church in countries such as Syria, Iraq, Nigeria, Sri Lanka and Pakistan. We pray for those who face daily discrimination and legal injustices. Lord in your mercy: **R/*Hear our prayer****.*

Let us pray for all those unjustly held or kidnapped because of their Faith. Lord in your mercy: **R/*Hear our prayer****.*

Let us pray for all those suffering with mental or physical illness, especially those facing constant discrimination and oppression. We pray that you may ease their pain. Lord in your mercy: **R/*Hear our prayer****.*

Let us pray for the faithful departed, remembering especially deceased friends and benefactors of Aid to the Church in Need and for those worldwide who have given their lives rather than abandon the Faith. Lord in your mercy: **R/*Hear our prayer****.*

**Celebrant;** Lord our God, you have called us to follow you in faith: in faith we also make our prayers to you, trusting in your grace and your mercy. We make all our prayers through Christ our Lord. **R/*Amen****.*

**Priest:** Lord God, You created us to love and serve You in one another. We ask You to hear and grant these prayers which we make in the name of Christ our Lord. Amen.

