**Wedding Anniversary Mass 2017 - Prayer of the Faithful**

**Celebrant:** As we gather today in grateful remembrance and thanksgiving, we turn now to the source of all love and pray.

 That God’s Spirit of love will sustain couples and deepen their love as they experience both the joys and challenges of married life.

**Response:** O Lord, hear us we pray, O Lord, give us your love

That God’s Spirit will touch all here present today and those who wished who were unable to do so and that the example of those celebrating significant wedding anniversaries will inspire and encourage all.

**Response:** O Lord, hear us we pray, O Lord, give us your love

That God’s Spirit of wisdom will guide and protect those preparing for marriage as they journey together in grace and love.

**Response:** O Lord, hear us we pray, O Lord, give us your love

That God’s Spirit of gentleness will touch all those in the Autumn of their married lives, and that they may reap the harvest of the love they have sown.

**Response:** O Lord, hear us we pray, O Lord, give us your love

May God’s gentle Spirit comfort all those amongst us who are widowed, who have lost the woman or man they loved and lived for, that they may bear their loss in a spirit of gratitude and expectation.

**Response:** O Lord, hear us we pray, O Lord, give us your love

May God’s Spirit come down upon those experiencing difficulties in their relationships and those whose marriages have broken down, bringing them insight, comfort and hope.

**Response:** O Lord, hear us we pray, O Lord, give us your love

May God’s Spirit gladden all of those who have enriched our family lives, we ask his protection for **all** our loving family members, our ‘in laws’, our children, nephews, nieces and grandchildren, our neighbours and community

**Response:** O Lord, hear us we pray, O Lord, give us your love

**Celebrant:** God of love and joy, listen to the prayers of your family gathered on this happy day. We offer them in the Spirit, through Christ, our Lord, Amen.

