

## Intercessions

7th Sunday in Ordinary Time—February 19, 2023

**Cantor: Hear our prayer, hear our prayer; God of mercy, hear our prayer.**

- For the whole Church and for all Christians who struggle with the challenge of loving one's enemy, taking no revenge, and holding no grudges. *We pray,*
- For the ability to question systems designed to penalize, punish or eliminate those considered enemies-- especially the military, policing, and criminal justice. *We pray,*
- For leadership at every level that promotes the rule of law and the appropriate use of mercy; and for all who have been treated unjustly. *We pray,*
- For the ability to recognize when competition morphs into resentment or retribution is considered God's will. *We pray,*
- For the overwhelming recovery and rebuilding challenges in Turkey and Syria; for those who have suffered unimaginable loss; and for the ability to overcome political and historical grievances in the area. *We pray,*
- For those among us who are sick, dying, grieving or suffering in any way; and for the will to minister lovingly to those in need—regardless of who they are or how they view us. *We pray,*
- We pray now for our own concerns; and for the courage to stretch beyond our comfort zones in how we regard others (*pause*). *For all these things, we pray,*