Gracious God, 
You have blessed 
this ancient land 
with many gifts, 
especially its people. 

We thank you for the 
Year of Grace, a time to 
start afresh from Christ. 

You invite us to contemplate 
the face of Jesus your Son, 
that we may experience 
a new wave of grace, 
and that the light of Christ 
may burn more brightly 
in our lives. 

Attune our hearts and minds 
to the presence of your 
Holy Spirit, that our Church 
may be transformed, 
our relationships be healed, 
and our nation grow in 
compassion and justice. 

With the intercession 
of St Mary MacKillop, 
who showed us new ways 
of living the Gospel, 
we make our prayer through 
Christ our Lord. Amen. 

Mary, Help of Christians, 
pray for us.
The Year of Grace is an invitation to the Catholics of this nation to join their Bishops on a spiritual journey, a time of listening to the Spirit, a space to recognise God’s grace in our lives and to encounter Jesus afresh.

The oldest known icon dates from the 6th or 7th century. The two different facial expressions on either side are said to emphasise Christ’s dual natures as fully God and fully human.

Icon of Christ “Pantocrator” (Almighty)
Saint Catherine’s Monastery, Mount Sinai.

contemplate the face of Christ

www.yearofgrace.catholic.org.au