

PRIEST: As we draw very near to the celebration of Christ's birth, let us place our needs and the needs of the world before our loving God.

READER: We pray for Pope Leo and for the Church throughout the world, that, like Mary, we may, together, bear Christ joyfully to all people through faith, humility, and service

(Pause) Lord hear us. Response: Lord graciously hear us.

READER: We pray for families and communities preparing for Christmas, that this time may deepen love, reconciliation, and generosity, especially where relationships are strained. We remember the students, teachers and all who work in our Parish Schools, that they may enjoy the peace of Christmas with their families. (Pause)

Lord hear us. Response: Lord graciously hear us.

READER: We pray for expectant mothers and fathers, that they may be supported, encouraged, and filled with hope, and that every child may be welcomed as a gift from God.

(Pause) Lord hear us. Response: Lord graciously hear us.

READER: We pray for our parish community, that we may recognise Christ present among us and respond with joyful faith and generous hearts. (Pause)

Lord hear us. Response: Lord graciously hear us.

READER: We pray that those touched by shadows of bereavement, may feel themselves close to their dear ones, through him whose light even death could not overcome. We remember those who have died recently: Joy Smith, Anthony Herron, Antonio Albini, Mary Nicholls, Michael Donnelly, Seamus Manley, Phil Walsh, Barbara Bolton, Mary Rita Johnston, Nora McGrogan, Monsignor Vaughan Morgan and Father David Keniry. We also remember those with anniversaries at this time, especially Robert William Bennison. (Pause)

Lord hear us. Response: Lord graciously hear us.

READER: We remember all who are sick, those in hospital and those who are housebound. We remember especially the sick of our own Parish, Father Joseph, Angela Keating, Benjamín Wort, Lilian, Tony Duffy, Philomena Gallagher, Ken Shirley, Savio Baretto, Eddie Martin, Helen Brookes, Briege Williams, Jonathan Williams, Anthony O'Neill, Michael, Patrick, Aiden & Anne O'Donnell, Margaret Hughes, Paulina Samathar, Father Michael White, Breda Fleming, Juliana Benjamin, Kate Nelson, Wilson Cotton, Angela Hyland, Cornelius Callanan, Noreen O'Connor, Larry Perkins, Tom Duffy and our families wherever they may be. (Pause) Lord hear us. Response: Lord graciously hear us.

Let us ask Mary the Mother of the Lord to pray with us: Hail Mary...Now let us pray for a few moments in silence for our own needs and intentions and for those intentions placed in the prayer box.

PRIEST. God of promise and fulfilment, you chose Mary to bring your Son into the world. Hear the prayers we offer with trusting hearts, through Christ our Lord. Amen.