

PRIEST: Lord God, we ask you to guide our prayers today. As we prepare to celebrate the coming of your Son, grant us wisdom, humility and kind-heartedness in our dealings with our fellow humans and all your creation.

READER: As we pray for Pope Francis, we echo his plea to those who run financial institutions; that they might “invest in hope” rather than in war. In our own lives, too, we ask for God’s guidance to help us keep sight of the ethical dimension of our actions and words. (Pause)

Lord hear us. Response: Lord graciously hear us.

READER: As we move deeper into Advent, we keep the Christ child in mind and we pray for children everywhere. We hold in our prayers particularly those who are affected by war or natural disaster, and those who live with poverty and deprivation. We ask God to be with their families; that they might create loving and safe environments for children to grow up in. (Pause)

Lord hear us. Response Lord graciously hear us.

READER: We pray for the people of Mayotte as they take stock of the devastation wrought by the recent cyclone. We ask God to be alongside them in their grief and loss, and to give strength and courage to those who go to their aid. (Pause) **Lord hear us. Response Lord graciously hear us.**

READER: We ask God to be present in our communities. May all our interactions with one another be full of care and compassion; that the places in which we live and work might be rich with possibility for all. (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; **Benjamin Wort, William Moran, Hughie Quinn, Damian Poole, Angela and Tony Duffy, Philomena Gallagher, Ken Shirley, Danny Meadows, Jennifer O’Donnell, John Kavanagh, Michael, Kavanagh, Kevin McDaid, James Brown, John McCarthy, Sandra Evans, Christopher Edmund Poole, Catherine Walton, Philip Saunders, Molly Saunders, Eileen Nolan, Savio Baretto, Joan Gibson, Eddie Martin, Helen Brookes, Briega Williams, Jonathan Williams, Anthony O’Neill, Michael, Patrick, Aiden & Anne O’Donnell, Margaret Hughes, Paulina Samathar, Philomena Baretto, Patrick Hickey, Chelsea O’Callaghan, Trish Embley, Juliana Benjamin, Breda Fleming, Doreen and Wilson Cotton, Ian Sanchez, Ellen Gilmore, Mary Cassidy** and our families wherever they may be. May they find hope and healing and may we all find ways of responding to their needs.

(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: **Father Fred Sheldon, Monsignor Graham Wilkinson, Rita Terry, Raphael Lee, Gerard Owen Courtney, Terence Patrick Wright, Noel Homes, Teresita Moriani:** we pray that they all may be brought to life in Christ who has destroyed death as the final enemy under His feet. We also remember those with anniversaries at this time. (Pause)

Lord hear us. Response: Lord graciously hear us.

Let us ask Mary the Mother of the Lord to pray with us: as we say- 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: Heavenly Father, may we know your presence with us as we wait for the reign of the Prince of Peace. May we be lights in the world, proclaiming the message of the Word Made Flesh. We ask this in the name of your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.