

Based on earlier Christmas intercessions prepared for Christmas Day 2018, 2019, midnight 2015

We pray for our families, our neighbors and our friends. May the joy of Christ's coming enliven them all; Give us strength we pray, that we be freed from fear, feel joy ourselves and bring joy to others this Christmas season.

*Lord in your mercy: **Hear our prayer***

A baby born to a young mother, wearied by a journey imposed by government requirements. We pray for all who are wearied by their journey to this Christmas

Day: those wearied by covid and isolation
those who live with conflict
those who live with hunger and need
those heavy with sorrow and grief

*Lord in your mercy: **Hear our prayer***

A baby, born to an anxious couple, far from home. Loving God we pray for all who feel far from their homes this Christmas Day:

refugees from war and persecution
those kept apart by quarantine and lockdown
those at work, on shift, in hospitals, waterworks, busses trains and air-
lines, the firefighters, ambulance officers and police
those divided from their families by disagreement
those who are lonely even amongst others
those who are lonely because they are alone

*Lord in your mercy: **Hear our prayer***

A baby born for all people, to bring us joy. Loving God we pray for ourselves, the family of Christ, this Christmas Day:

the sisters and brothers here with us now
those who worshipped here last night and at the Nativity
the extended family throughout the world
those working amongst the needy
those announcing the Good News
those finding faith hard
those whose memory we cherish

*Lord in your mercy: **Hear our prayer***

We pray for the Church throughout the world, for the church in Bethlehem, for our bishop Geoff and our parish priest Sophie, for Jo, and for all deacons, priests and bishops who have ministered to us this year. For their ministry we give thanks to God.

*Lord in your mercy: **Hear our prayer***

We pray for all who are trouble, sorrow, need, sickness, or any other adversity, especially those who are known to us... for all who have asked for our prayers ... May the joy of Christ's coming enliven them all. Give us strength that we be freed from fear and feel in ourselves the joy of Christ's coming and bring joy to others.

*Lord in your mercy: **Hear our prayer***

Almighty God you have promised to hear our prayers. **Grant that what we have asked in faith we may by your grace receive, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen**