

Prayers for the weekend 26/ 27th November 2022 - 1st Sunday of Advent Yr A

Celebrant

Advent is a time of anticipation. Christ's birthday lies before us to celebrate. It is also a time of preparation and reflection on the fact that we are moving closer to the day of Christ's promise to us, the promise of eternal life.

Response: Hear our prayer

Our church and its people need strength and love to welcome Christ at His coming. We also need the love and acceptance to welcome those who have left the church and those who are seeking for the right answers and for God in their lives. We pray that we may all grow in God's love. **Lord in your mercy ...**

As winter and the cold weather draws in, we pray for those sleeping on the streets, those with insufficient food, those who cannot afford to heat their homes and those who are lonely and without love. We ask that they all feel God's warmth and love through our efforts. **Lord in your mercy ..**

We pray for all those in the war-torn areas of the world, particularly Ukraine. We pray for a resolution to conflict, that "nation will not lift sword against nation" and peace will reign. **Lord in your mercy**

We remember the sick in our parish and among our friends, both at home and in hospital. We pray they receive God's help and healing. **Lord in your mercy..**

We ask for comfort and solace for those among us who are grieving. We pray for those dying in the bosom of their families and for those dying alone and uncared for. May they all feel the reward of God's love. **Lord in your mercy ..**

Mary, Christ's mother will have been preparing for His birth. Let us say the Hail Mary for all mothers expecting a baby in the coming weeks, that they may be blessed with the joy that Mary knew in her Son.

Hail Mary full of grace

Let us take a few moments now to reflect on our own intentions and needs at this time.

Celebrant

Lord God, you showed us what it is to have a loving and caring family. Love not wealth is what makes it a cherishing place. Give us the grace to spread the love we have to those who have less in these difficult times.