**Fourth Sunday of Advent**

**Prayers of the Faithful**

**Celebrant:**

Let us pray that the light of Christ our Saviour may shine in our lives and in our world.

1. As we listen to that Gospel this evening we pray that each one of us will respond generously to the call of God in our lives. **Lord, hear us.**
2. We remember in prayer people who for one reason or another are struggling to know and to do the will of God in their lives. We pray that they may soon find light and strength in their respective life's journeys. **Lord, hear us.**
3. We pray our Pope Francis, that he may have good health as he continues to lead the church on the synodal pathway, so important for our church of today. We pray for bishops and all leaders in our church that they may have the courage to speak and teach the truth, in season and out of season. **Lord, hear us.**
4. In this season of peace and goodwill we thank God for the peace we enjoy in this part of the world. We offer a heartfelt prayer for all those people in different parts of the world who are experiencing the devastating effects of war at this time. (Pause) We pray for those working for peace that their efforts will be rewarded. **Lord, hear us.**
5. In these days of Christmas, we pray for families that they be blessed in their coming together at various festive gatherings. We pray that all of us will try to ensure that the Christ child of Bethlehem will be central to all our celebrations. In our attendance at church these days, may we lead by example and encourage others including family members to join us in prayer. **Lord, hear us.**
6. Christmas can be a difficult time for some people especially those who have lost a loved one during the year. As remember our dead we pray for those who mourn that be comforted. **Lord, hear us.**

**Celebrant:**

God our Father in this time of grace and thanksgiving bring us closer to you in our hearts and in our homes. May this Christmas be a memorable one for all of us as we try to keep you and your message, more at the centre of our lives. We ask this through Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**