

Second Sunday of Christmas

Prayers of the Faithful

Celebrant:

In today's Gospel, we read: 'He was in the world, yet the world did not know him. He came to his own, and his own did not accept him.' We pray today for the grace in our daily lives to both know and accept the new-born Jesus as our true Lord and Saviour.

1. For the Church, that we may faithfully follow where God leads us, and be attentive to the deepest desires which God has placed in our hearts. **Lord, hear us.**
2. For those in public office. Enlighten them with a spirit of service that they may govern wisely and responsibly in offering affordable solutions for the care of our planet. **Lord, hear us.**
3. We pray for all those who have worked hard and made sacrifices in our parish and community for the poor and needy over this Christmas period. **Lord, hear us.**
4. As we begin a New Year we are mindful of new commitments and resolutions. Lord, we seek your guidance and strength to persevere in our endeavours. **Lord, hear us.**
5. We pray for a spirit of generosity among the advanced countries of the world. May they share resources, medicines and equipment with poorer nations striving to implement their Covid vaccination programmes. **Lord, hear us.**

6. We pray for all who allow the Spirit of Life to work in them for the betterment of our world and humanity. Continue to inspire researchers and innovators in their work as they strive to improve our quality of life and the world in which we live. **Lord, hear us.**

7. We pray for all who like John the Baptist suffer persecution because they witness to Christ, the Light. Strengthen their faith and deepen their courage, as they strive to live and worship in freedom. **Lord, hear us.**

8. We pray for management, staff, and students as they prepare to return to school this week. Renew their passion for wisdom and learning. Open their minds and hearts to the Good News of justice, love, and peace. **Lord, hear us.**

9. We bow our heads and remember in silence our own personal intentions and the intentions of those who have asked for our prayers. **Lord, hear us.**

10. We pray for all who have died; may they share in the ‘spiritual blessings of heaven in Christ.’ **Lord, hear us.**

Celebrant:

God our Father, as we celebrate the mystery of the Word made flesh, grant that he may dwell in us and we in him for he is Lord for ever and ever. **Amen.**