

Prayers of the Faithful Christmas Eve

Celebrant:

With Christ's light shining on us this night, let us pray to God for our own needs, the needs of the church and of the world.

1. We pray for the Church; that this Christmas will stir in us a great desire to seek love in all things and in all we do. **Lord, hear us.**
2. For all those in need of our prayers: the homeless; the unemployed; the hungry; those who are hospitalised; those who are imprisoned in body or soul; and all those for whom this season is one, not of joy but of trial and sadness. **Lord, hear us.**
3. 'Glory to God in the highest and on earth peace to people of goodwill.' For the gift of peace; that world leaders may bring the peace, sung by the angels, to the war torn places of our world. **Lord, hear us.**
4. For those who work this night on behalf of others: doctors and nurses, those in the Emergency Services, those working in care facilities, the prison service, those serving in the Defence Services, bus and taxi drivers, and all those whose work prevents them from sharing this evening with those they love. Reward their selfless dedication in the service of others. **Lord, hear us.**
5. For the sick and the lonely: that Christ who shared our humanity on this sacred night may renew their strength and rekindle their hope. **Lord, hear us**

6. For the gift of awe and wonder; may we follow the example of shepherds and wise men, in our adoration of the Christ-child.

Lord, hear us.

7. For those who are grieving the loss of a loved one: that the light of God's consolation may shine on them. **Lord hear us**

8. For those who have gone before us in faith; that as we remember them in love, they may live forever in the light of your heavenly glory. **Lord hear us.**

Celebrant:

God of love and mercy,
may the coming of your son scatter the darkness of the world,
and make it radiant with his light.

May we follow him faithfully,
and come to the light that shines forever.

We ask this through the same Christ our Lord. **Amen**