

Intercession Prayer for 19th December 2021

Let us pray.....

Everlasting Father, we share today with Mary the joy of anticipation of the greatest gift of all, our Blessed Saviour, Jesus, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world, through whom we have gained access by faith into this grace in which we now stand, we thank you for your LOVE which has been poured out into ALL our hearts through the Holy Spirit.

Quieten our hearts and lives so that we can hear your voice amongst the hustle and bustle of everyday life as Christmas approaches.

(Short Silence)

Lord, in your mercy: hear our prayer

Lord Emmanuel, we pray for the church and for Christians worldwide, may we all be filled with your Holy Spirit afresh, enabling us not through our own abilities but through YOUR glorious power to shine the light and love of Jesus to the world. We give you thanks for the ministry at St Paul's church; for the Carol Services, Concerts and activities that have been held during Advent and we pray that all who have attended will have had a glimpse of the life of the Gospel. We pray for any guided to the alpha course next year.

(Short Silence)

Lord, in your mercy: hear our prayer

Prince of Peace, we pray for our government, and world leaders. We pray for those who are in positions of authority with responsibility for making decisions for the good of all at this time. We ask that YOU give them a spirit of righteousness and honorable judgment.

We remember before you all those who will spend the Christmas period away from home in conflict in Syria and the Middle East, praying earnestly for an end to war and terrorism.

(Short Silence)

Lord, in your mercy: hear our prayer

As we contemplate the Christmas journey, we pray for refugees, for those who are homeless, hungry or in need of shelter, we pray for children everywhere born into poverty, and we pray for any who are fleeing danger or afraid to look ahead. We pray for charities such as Shelter, Centerpoint, Refuge, Christian Aid many more, we pray all those who work for, volunteer and support these charities which offer help and support to those in need.

Lord, in your mercy: hear our prayer

Gracious God, we call to mind all those who we know who are struggling with life. We especially ask for your comfort and healing for all those who are coping with terminal illness and ask you to be close to those who care for them. We give you thanks for those who have been healed or are in the process of recovery and recuperation.

(Short Silence)

Lord, in your mercy: hear our prayer

Merciful God, we know that Christmas can be a difficult time of year for those who are grieving. Lord God, our Wonderful counsellor, comfort all whose lives are saddened by the loss of a loved one. In a moment of silence we pray for any who we have died.

(Short Silence)

Lord, in your mercy: hear our prayer

Merciful father: **accept these prayers for the sake of your Son, our Saviour, Jesus Christ. Amen**