

## **PRAYERS FOR THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

Let us pray for grace to prepare for the coming of the Lord.

Gracious God fill the Church with the power of the Holy Spirit announce to the Virgin Mary. Hear our prayers for the leaders of your Church; Justin, Archbishop of Canterbury; Geoffrey, Abp of Adelaide and Primate of the Anglican Church of Australia; Philip, Archbishop of Melbourne, and for Genieve our Bishop. May the faith of her response be granted to all Christian people; may they be open to hear and obey the calling of God.

Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer**

Gracious God draw the nations of the world into the Kingdom of the Messiah, that those who hold authority may use it for the good of all. May the divine power overshadow the places of strife and violence and bring them peace.

Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer**

Gracious God bless us, our families, friends and neighbours as we make ready for the holy time of Christmas. Bless especially all the families of this community who are expecting the birth of a child and bring them the joy of new life.

Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer**

Gracious God thank-you for the work our prayer and mission partner the Mission to Seafarers - Victoria. Hear us as we pray for seafarers who endure hardship, danger and discomfort to bring us the goods we use each day. Keep them safe in the palm of your hand and bring them through sunshine and storm to their homes and loved ones.

Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer**

Gracious God have mercy on all who are perplexed and troubled, uncertain where their lives are leading; give them assurance that

God, to whom all things are possible, is very close to them in their need.

Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer**

Gracious God have mercy on all who suffer in body, mind or spirit, as we name before you:

Pat Oswald, David Nolte, Dorothy Maher and Anthony Schiavone.

Let the light of hope shine through their darkness and give them comfort in their affliction.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Gracious God we pray for the departed who heard and tried to follow the command of God in this world and have now come to the fullness of life in him as we remember those who have died as a consequence of the pandemic and those who have died in recent days:

(Pause), ...

and those who have died alone and afraid.

We rejoice that they praise him with the Blessed Virgin Mary and all the saints as we remember with love and affection those whose anniversary of death occurs at this time:

(Pause)...

Rest eternal grant unto them O Lord,  
**and let light perpetual shine upon them.**

Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer**

We pray in the name of Christ, the Son of the Most High.

Almighty God, you have promised to hear our prayers.

**Grant that what we have asked in faith, we may by your grace receive through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**