PRAYERS FOR THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF EPIPHANY

For deliverance from evil, let us pray to the Lord.

Gracious God grant to the Church the grace to resist evil and to bring release to those who are in its power. 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. In the authority of the Lord, may the Church do your present work on earth

Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer

Gracious God we pray for the healing of the nations from all strife and violence and from the effects of the pandemic. May those in authority, made free from greed and the love of power, rule with justice and mercy. May the darkness be dispersed and the glory of God revealed.

Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer

Gracious God be close to us, with our families and friends and in all our relationships; keep them free from all that would harm them; forgive the faults and imperfections in this community and fill it with your good Spirit.

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 the mentally ill and give patience to

those who care for them as we pray that all who through folly or intention have fallen into evil ways shall be made whole.

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:

Alan Tracey, 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 those who have died unreconciled and in fear 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.

Grant them the peace that here they did not know and the vision that they have lost 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 offer our prayers in the name of Christ, the name which casts out all evil.

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.