

## Bidding Prayers

### Bidding Prayers for week beginning 19 / 20 December 2020

#### Reader:

Let us pray for the universal Church which has Christ for its shepherd, that we may follow his path of truth and love. We pray for our Holy Father, Pope Francis, and for his bishops, that their faith, integrity and leadership inspire us to help further God's kingdom on earth. We remember those in our local community of all faiths and especially this week for the congregation of the Southgate Methodist Church.

#### *Lord in your mercy...*

As we arrive at the end of Advent and prepare for the coming of the child Jesus, we pray for peace, understanding and reconciliation in the Middle East, that the lands where the Gospel message was first sown might see an end to the hostilities which have so often divided the communities that live there.

#### *Lord in your mercy...*

Let us pray for those affected by warfare and violence. As we prepare to celebrate Christmas, we pray for the millions of homeless refugees in the war-torn areas of this world, that they might find some cause for hope and joy in the midst of their hardship.

#### *Lord in your mercy...*

Let us pray for a fairer distribution of the earth's resources. May we who have plenty be generous in assisting those whose lives are affected by famine, drought and disease. We pray for those affected by man-made and natural disasters which often have a devastating impact on so many of the poorest of our troubled world.

#### *Lord in your mercy...*

Let us pray for the sick of our parish, for those who care for them and for those who have especially asked for our prayers:

#### *Lord in your mercy...*

Let us pray for those who have died recently and for those whose anniversaries occur at this time, that the Lord may lead them to everlasting life:

#### *Lord in your mercy...*

Let us ask Our Lady, Queen of Peace, to pray for us:

Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee, blessed are thou among women and blessed is the fruit of thy womb Jesus. Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners now and at the hour of our death.  
Amen.

And now let us pray for a few moments in silence, remembering our own needs and intentions.