

## Old Hills Malvern Churches

### Collects and Intercessions for Advent 4 and onwards to Christmas

#### Collect for Advent 4

God our redeemer, who prepared the Blessed Virgin Mary to be the mother of your Son: grant that, as she looked for his coming as our saviour, so we may be ready to greet him when he comes again as our judge; who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

#### Intercessions for 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent Year B – 20<sup>th</sup> December 2020

Lord God, we join our prayers to those of Mary, your faithful servant and mother of our Lord, to proclaim your greatness, and sing in gratitude for all your wonderful gifts bestowed on us, your lowly servants.

Lord, we pray, look down with love upon our Church here as day by day we struggle to be a body worthy of Jesus' name. Be with us as we focus on the coming of your kingdom and the gift of your son this Christmas.

#### Lord, ***in your Mercy: Hear our Prayer***

Mary prayed that the mighty be cast down from their thrones, we pray that those in power would use that power wisely and compassionately so that the lowly would be lifted up, the hungry fed and greater equality be established between rich and poor. We particularly pray that all peoples of the world be given access to Covid19 Vaccines whatever their situation, age or gender.

#### Lord, ***in your Mercy: Hear our Prayer***

Mary's prayer was given to God whilst on a visit to her cousin Elizabeth. At this time of Advent and Christmas, we pray for all who are travelling to visit relatives and friends. We give thanks for the hospitality shown by our friends and families and for our opportunity to share with them and ask that we are always aware of your presence with us in all of our parties and festivities. We pray that personal responsibility and safety are our first priority this Christmas.

#### Lord, ***in your Mercy: Hear our Prayer***

Mary recognised your promise of mercy; Lord we ask you to show your mercy on all who are sick, fearful or in mourning and especially we pray for those members of our church, families and friends who we now name before you.

Lord, *in your Mercy: Hear our Prayer*

Heavenly Father, you sent to earth the gift of your son Jesus Christ that in your power and love we might also have the gift of eternal life; bless those whom we love that have departed this life with the gifts of your all-encompassing love and life eternal.

Lord, *in your Mercy: Hear our Prayer*

Heavenly Father, who chose the Blessed Virgin Mary to be the mother of the promised saviour: fill us your servants with your grace, that in all things we may embrace your holy will and with her rejoice in your salvation; send us out to finish our Advent journey filled with love and joy and peace ready to receive that promise afresh into our lives.

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

### **Collect for Christmas Eve and Day 2020**

Almighty God, you have given us your only-begotten Son to take our nature upon him and as at this time to be born of a pure virgin: grant that we, who have been born again and made your children by adoption and grace, may daily be renewed by your Holy Spirit; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

### **Intercessions for Christmas Day Year B – 2020**

At Christmas, the song of the angels rings throughout the world.

As we rejoice in their song may we always acknowledge that Christ brings peace for us all.

Grant Lord, that our Church here will be illuminated by His light and shine forth in the world. May the devotion of the shepherds, the adoration of the angels, and the love of the Holy Family inspire us in our worship this day and through the coming year:

Lord, in your Mercy: **Hear our Prayer**

Son of God, you entered creation that all might be made new. Look in mercy on our broken world and speak to all people that they may hear the message of peace.

We especially pray for peace for the people of Bethlehem and the Holy City of Jerusalem.

Lord, in your Mercy: **Hear our Prayer**

Lord God as the shepherds of Bethlehem bowed in reverence before the Holy Family we pray that you would bring to all families the joys experienced by Mary and Joseph and bless every home in our parishes and the homes of our families wherever they may be.

Lord, in your Mercy: **Hear our Prayer**

The wise men, representing power and authority, brought their gifts for the new-born King. May we bring our gifts to the Christ Child at this time.

Lord, in your Mercy: **Hear our Prayer**

Lord God, the gift of your son brought light into our darkness and healing through his touch.

Hear our prayers for those who suffer, for all people without a home at this time, families separated because of Covid restrictions, families struggling with debt and uncertainty and all who are ill. We pray particularly for those close to our hearts who we now name.

Lord, in your Mercy: **Hear our Prayer**

Merciful Father, grant to those who have departed this life eternal rest, and to those who mourn at this time, bring your consolation; we especially pray for those for whom this is the first Christmas separated from a loved one.

Lord, **in your Mercy: Hear our Prayer**

Emmanuel, God with us, you understood what it is to be human. Hear our prayers and use them, and us, to bring peace, joy, love and hope into the lives of those for whom we have prayed.

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

**Collect for the First Sunday of Christmas**

Almighty God, who wonderfully created us in your own image and yet more wonderfully restored us through your Son Jesus Christ: grant that, as he came to share in our humanity, so we may share the life of his divinity; who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**