

PRIEST: As we await the return of our Saviour, Jesus, we bring to the Father our prayers and concerns for the world, the Church and ourselves:

READER: **For Pope Francis and all who exercise authority in the Church, that their efforts may inspire us to walk in the ways of the Lord.**

*(pause)*

**Lord in your mercy**

READER: **For governments and world leaders, that the Advent message of hope will move them to renew their efforts for peace and justice.**

*(pause)*

**Lord in your mercy**

READER: **For refugees, migrants and outcasts, that they may receive food, shelter and a generous welcome in their time of need.**

*(pause)*

**Lord in your mercy**

READER: **For our own parish community, that we may find Advent to be a time of renewal and grace.**

*(pause)*

**Lord in your mercy**

READER: **For all who have lost their way in the wilderness of desperation, that God will strengthen them with truth and lead them home.**

*(pause)*

**Lord in your mercy**

READER: **For all who are bereaved and those who are sick or suffering: that the love of Christ will bring them comfort and hope.**

*(pause)*

**Lord in your mercy**

PRIEST: Gracious and loving God,  
we bring our prayers before you.  
Teach us to be patient  
and to trust in you always.  
We ask this through Christ, our Lord.