

Intercessions for Christmas Day 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, no matter our circumstances.

Grant Lord, that our churches here in the West Hereford Team 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:

(Short Silence)

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.

(Short Silence)

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 communities and the homes of families throughout the world.

(Short Silence)

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.

(Short Silence)

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 Corona Virus 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.

(Short Silence)

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.

(Short Silence)

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