

# PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 22, 2013

1. As we approach Christmas, let us remember that this is a time for giving - a time to recognise that there many less well off than we are and in need of our help, whether with money, respect or friendship. At this time let us ask – what would Jesus have us do?

We pray to the Lord                      R. Lord hear our prayer

2. We pray for those young couples who at this time are looking forward to the birth of a new baby, as Joseph and Mary did - that they may have a safe delivery and the gift of a healthy child.

We pray to the Lord                      R. Lord hear our prayer

3. We pray for all those travelling home to Ireland for Christmas, that they may travel safely and find here among us renewal of hope, faith and love of one another.

We pray to the Lord                      R. Lord hear our prayer

4. We pray for those people who dread Christmas because of bereavement or loneliness, that our support may help and sustain them.

We pray to the Lord                      R. Lord hear our prayer

5. We pray for our children that, in the midst of our society's preoccupation with the glitter and commercialisation of Christmas, they don't lose sight of the meaning and joy of the birth of Jesus.

We pray to the Lord                      R. Lord hear our prayer

6. We pray for peace in Northern Ireland and, in particular, that the current talks on divisive issues be amicably resolved and that the divided communities may this Christmas be at one with God and with their neighbours.

We pray to the Lord                      R. Lord hear our prayer

7. We remember in silence our own personal intentions and the intentions of those who have asked for our prayers (Please pause for 5 seconds)

We pray to the Lord                      R. Lord hear our prayer