

Season of Advent : Sunday 1A
Poor Parishes Collection
General Intercessions

Bishop

Watching and waiting upon the Lord in this season of hope,
let us pray for the Church and for the world.

Reader

1. We pray for Pope Francis, and all bishops, priests, deacons and religious:
that as we enter the season of Advent,
they may help to lead us with care
through this time of preparation and renewal,
to the joy of the birth of Christ.

*PAUSE for silent prayer — at least **five** seconds, please. Repeat after each intention.*

Lord, in your mercy. **Hear our prayer.**

2. For the people and clergy of the poor parishes in our diocese;
that our communities of faith may grow strong in bearing witness to Christ.
3. We pray for world leaders during these difficult times:
that as well as meeting to discuss various problems
and reaching mutual decisions,
they expand those talks into action for the common good.
4. We pray for our brothers and sisters around the world
who are living in areas marred by war and disaster, famine and disease:
that their lives will be changed from daily despair
to times of hope and promise of a safer future.
5. We pray for those living in anxiety and fear of the coming months,
because of rising energy bills:
that they will be reassured by measures to ease these pressures,
and by the help of their families, neighbours and friends.
6. We pray for all who have died,
especially in our own families and who are close to our hearts.
7. Let us turn to our Mother Mary, and ask her to join with us in our prayers: Hail ..

Bishop

Almighty God,
strengthen the resolve of your faithful people
to prepare for the coming of your Christ by works of justice and mercy,
so that when we go forth to meet him
he may call us to sit at his right hand
and possess the kingdom of heaven.
Grant this through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.