

2018 Advent Prayer in the Diocese of Helena

“We Wait in Joyful Hope” Prayer Brochure

The prayer brochure provided in bulk to all the parishes and missions of the Diocese of Helena is intended to be prayed by small parish groups as a beginning or concluding prayer for parish gatherings and/or for personal prayer and reflection. It is not intended for use at Mass.

Universal Prayer / Prayer of the Faithful. Advent 2018 For use during the General Intercessions at Advent Sunday Mass

During these challenging days for our beloved Church we choose to embrace a common **Prayer of the Faithful** throughout the Diocese on the Sundays of Advent as together “we wait in joyful hope” for healing, transformation and the revealing Light of Christ’s abiding truth.

A common “introduction” is provided for the Prayer.

There is one intercession provided for each Sunday of Advent. The prayers reflect the Opening Collect and Scripture of the particular Sunday.

Note the different conclusion and response of the assembly for the prayers.

The suggested form for each of the prayers should also be the form used for the prayers of intercession crafted by the parish.



INTRODUCTION TO THE ADVENT GENERAL INTERCESSIONS EACH SUNDAY OF ADVENT:

Priest: **LOVING AND EVER-FAITHFUL GOD,
we await again the coming of your Christ,
resolving to meet him doing what is right and just,
ready to change our ways and renew your Church,
as you pour forth your grace into our life.
We lift our hearts, raise our voice and pray:
Hear us Lord, save your people.**

The First Sunday of Advent, December 2, 2018

Reader: FOR THOSE ABUSED WHO LIVE IN FRIGHT,
whose spirit is crushed and whose life has been shaken:
Let their story be heard, truth be told and justice done.
May the heart of the whole church awaken from drowsiness,
and live in ways pleasing to God as we run forth to meet Christ.
We lift our hearts, raise our voice and pray:

ALL: **HEAR US LORD, SAVE YOUR PEOPLE.**

The Second Sunday of Advent, December 9, 2018

Reader: FOR NEW WISDOM AND A COURAGEOUS HEART FOR THE WHOLE CHURCH,
clothed today in a "robe of mourning and misery:"
Let us prepare anew the way of the Lord
as we set out in haste to meet the coming Savior
"with mercy and justice for company."
Though we go forth weeping, may we come back rejoicing.
We lift our hearts, raise our voice and pray:

ALL: **HEAR US LORD, SAVE YOUR PEOPLE.**

The Third Sunday of Advent, December 16, 2018

Reader: FOR NEW HOPE AS WE FAITHFULLY AWAIT THE LIGHT OF A RENEWED CHURCH,
confident and unafraid, let our kindness be known to all.
Purge us of deceit and encourage us to serve faithfully
the many who are cold and long for food, shelter and a new home.
Let generosity and care, love and joy reveal that "the Lord is near."
We lift our hearts, raise our voice and pray:

ALL: **HEAR US LORD, SAVE YOUR PEOPLE.**

The Fourth Sunday of Advent, December 23, 2018

Reader: FOR A NEW VISION, POURED INTO OUR HEARTS FROM THE GRACE OF GOD,
to renew the Church in every place with the love of the Savior
who comes to save us.
Let us act and live with the trust of Mary who births anew
the one whose coming is certain and who shall be our peace.
We lift our hearts, raise our voice and pray:

ALL: **HEAR US LORD, SAVE YOUR PEOPLE.**



Diocese of Helena

Prayer prepared by Fr. Ed Hislop, Chair Diocese of Helena Liturgical Commission