# **The Universal Prayer**

**The Octave of Christmas**

# **Sunday 29th December 2024**

**Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph**

**Year C Readings**

Celebrant: Sisters and brothers, God’s Son entered our world through a family, a family which knew anxiety and consolation. Today we pray for the welfare of all families.

1. For the family of the Church:

that as she now celebrates the Jubilee Year of Hope,

all will give witness to the goodness of family life,

and support those in difficulties.

Let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, hear our prayer.**

1. For the family of Nations:

that in the hope of this Jubilee Year,

all will put aside the weapons of war and violence,

and the ways of lies and corruption,

and together seek peace and goodwill for all.

Let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, hear our prayer**

1. For our own families:

that in the grace of this Jubilee Year

we will give thanks for each other,

and stand together when there are difficulties,

as did Joseph and Mary with the child Jesus.

Let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, hear our prayer.**

1. For families enduring great hardship:

because of religious persecution, war, terrorism,

because of drought, bushfires and floods:

that hope will be instilled in their hearts in this Jubilee Year,

as we hold them up to God in prayer.

Let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, hear our prayer.**

1. For Indigenous, refugee and asylum families in Australia and beyond:

that they may receive the respect and support which they need

to overcome discrimination, poverty, and disadvantage,

so that hope strengthens their spirits.

Let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, hear our prayer.**

1. For

Let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, hear our prayer**

1. For the departed members of our families,

that as we remember them with gratitude

they may find eternal happiness in God.

We pray also for . . . .

Let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, hear our prayer**

Celebrant: Heavenly Father,

enable us to see in the family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph the inspiration which we need so as to value and nurture the lives of our families.

Through Christ our Lord.

**The Universal Prayer**

**Monday 30th December 2024**

**Sixth Day of the Octave of Christmas**

Celebrant: My friends, the praise of Anna in the Jerusalem

 Temple, echoes throughout the world in every

 Eucharist.

1. That we may, above all else, praise God

at this time for the gift of his Son, Jesus Christ.

Let us pray to the Lord.

1. That the senior members of our parish

may be models of prayer and faith

as were Anna and Simeon in the Temple.

Let us pray to the Lord.

1. That the children of our parish and families

may, like Jesus, grow to maturity,

be filled with wisdom,

and know that God’s favour is with them.

Let us pray to the Lord.

1. That fathers and young men

may grow in virtue

and contribute to the welfare of society.

Let us pray to the Lord.

1. That the elderly and frail trapped in the wars of Palestine and Israel,

suffering in Lebanon and Syria and struggling in Ukraine and Russia,

will find support from those around them.

Let us pray to the Lord.

Celebrant: Eternal King,

in this family of your Church

we give you praise.

Through Christ our Lord.

**The Universal Prayer**

**Tuesday 31st December 2024**

**Pope St. Silvester I**

**Seventh Day of the Octave of Christmas**

Celebrant: As we come to this last day of 2024

 we want to give thanks to God for blessings received

 and place the new year under God’s care.

1. For joy in the Word made flesh,

Jesus Christ, true Light of the world.

Let us pray to the Lord.

2. For our planet earth and the universe,

created through the Son of God,

 that we may care for it with responsibility.

Let us pray to the Lord.

3. For times past, that we may give thanks for God’s blessings

repent of our foolishness, and pray for those we offended.

Let us pray to the Lord.

4. For the New Year,

 that we may move into it with confidence

 for it is the Jubilee Year of Hope.

Let us pray to the Lord.

5 For our parishioners, relatives and friends who have died this past year, along with those killed in wars, conflicts, transport accidents, domestic violence, murder and suicide and through natural disasters, that they may live in God’s merciful grace forever.

Let us pray to the Lord.

1. For the safety of all on holidays at this time as we mark today

the anniversary of the granting of paid annual leave in Australia

in 1946.

Let us pray to the Lord.

Celebrant: Almighty God,

may we always follow your more nearly,

love you more dearly,

day by day, year by year.

Through Christ our Lord.

# **The Universal Prayer**

# **Wednesday 1st January 2025**

**Solemnity of Mary The Holy Mother of God**

**Octave of Christmas**

**World Day of Prayer for Peace**

Celebrant: As we honour Mary, the Holy Mother of God,

we also respond to Pope Francis’ invitation to observe this World Day of Prayer for Peace, with its theme: “Forgive us our trespasses: grant us your peace.”

1. For Pope Francis, who shows to the Church and the world

a tender devotion to Mary, Mother of God and Mother of the Church.

Let us pray to the Lord,

**Lord, hear our prayer.**

1. For a trust in the prayers of Mary, that as she showed her Son Jesus to the shepherds, so through us may he be revealed to others in his tenderness

by our faith and hope and charity.

Let us pray to the Lord,

**Lord, hear our prayer.**

1. For the world caught up in so many wars between nations and within them, that people will receive the sweet grace of forgiveness and so be open to the peace of Jesus.

Let us pray to the Lord,

**Lord, hear our prayer.**

1. For the blessing of reconciliation, by which fear of the other

is replaced by respect and understanding

Let us pray to the Lord,

**Lord, hear our prayer**

1. For the gift of confidence as we start a new year,

mindful of our responsibilities towards those struggling because of drought and bushfires, as well as with homelessness, sickness, unemployment, fear and uncertainty.

Let us pray to the Lord.

 **Lord, hear our prayer.**

1. For our Commonwealth of Australia, proclaimed on this day in 1901, that working together we will strengthen it as a welcoming and hospitable nation, gracious and honourable towards her indigenous people,

sensitive toward the poor.

Let us pray to the Lord.

 **Lord, hear our prayer.**

1. For the priests and people of Woodville Park who honour Mary, Mother of God as their patroness, and of Seaton Parish who honour Mary as Mother of Christ.

Let us pray to the Lord.

 **Let us pray to the Lord.**

Celebrant: Lord, bless and keep us, let your face shine upon us

 and bring us your peace through Jesus Christ,

 your Son and our Saviour,

 who lives and reigns for ever and ever.

**The Universal Prayer**

**Thursday 2nd January 2025**

**Saints Basil the Great and Gregory Nazianzen**

**Weekday before Epiphany**

Celebrant: Sisters and brothers,

today’s Saints devoted themselves to proclaiming

the mystery of Christ to others.

1. For the Eastern Catholic and Orthodox Churches

whose understanding of Jesus Christ has been greatly enriched

by the preaching and writings of St Basil and St Gregory,

that they may devote themselves to the unity of God’s Church.

Let us pray to the Lord.

1. For the people of Russia and the Russian Orthodox Church

who honour St Basil as a patron saint, that they may be partners

with Pope Francis, the Catholic Church and all other Orthodox Churches in healing past differences, and so be united at the Eucharistic table once again.

Let us pray to the Lord.

1. For each other, anointed in the Holy Spirit,

so that our friendships can be enriched by faith in Jesus

as was that between St Basil and St Gregory.

Let us pray to the Lord.

4 For a swift end to the war between Russia and Ukraine

 that peace will prevail in all things.

 Let us pray to the Lord.

5 For safety on our roads at this time,

and the security of children during their holidays.

Let us pray to the Lord.

Celebrant: Lord our God,

 show your justice to the nations,

 so that rejoicing in your salvation

 peace may reign everywhere.

 Through Christ our Lord.

**Friday 3rd January 2025**

# **The Holy Name of Jesus**

Readings of the 3rd January or from

Votive Mass of the Holy Name, Lectionary Volume 3, pages 798 807

**Weekdays before the Epiphany**

Celebrant: Dear friends, the name of Jesus, meaning Saviour,

was made know by the angel,

and given to the Child by Joseph.

1. That Catholics may maintain a deep reverence for the Holy Name of Jesus and use it for blessing and peace.

Let us pray to the Lord.

1. That our society, and especially the entertainment industry, may respect the Name of Jesus, which is loved by Christians and also honoured by Muslims.

Let us pray to the Lord.

1. That our Catholic youth and young adults will always respect the Name of Jesus, and so witness to their peers how holy is His Name.

Let us pray to the Lord.

1. That the communities of the Holy Name Church at St Peters,

and the Community of the Holy Name Chapel at Athelstone,

may experience a strong faith in Jesus and advance in grace.

Let us pray to the Lord.

1. That those who experience excessive pain or fever,

or who have gone through floods, bushfires or other disasters,

may be helped through the intercession of St Genevieve

who is also honoured on this day and as their patroness.

Let us pray to the Lord.

1. That peace will prevail in every country where war is destroying

people and communities.

Let us pray to the Lord.

Celebrant: Father and King, we bless your Name forever;

 we praise the Holy Name of your Son Jesus;

 we honour the Holy Spirit; be our God now and forever.

**The Universal Prayer**

**Saturday 4th January 2025**

(St Elizabeth Anne Seton)

**Weekday before Epiphany**

Celebrant: Dear friends,

as remember those first disciples being invited to

stay with the Lord, we give thanks that we can be with the Lord during this Eucharist.

1. May Catholics grow in their appreciation of the presence of Christ in his Word and Sacrament, especially in this Jubilee Year of Hope..

Let us pray to the Lord.

2. May we all be apostles like Andrew

who bought his brother Peter to meet Jesus.

Let us pray to the Lord.

3. May children be safe these holidays

so that no one leads them astray or causes them any harm.

Let us pray to the Lord.

4. May all religions promote peace,

and may religion never be misused so as to harm people.

Let us pray to the Lord.

5. May there be rain in areas of drought

and sufficient for the daily needs of people.

Let us pray to the Lord.

1. May the dedicated life of St Elizabeth Ann Seton, the first native-born Saint of the United States of America, show us how to respect family life, provide education for children, care for the poor and needy.

Let us pray to the Lord.

Celebrant: Father and King,

 may the whole of creation praise you,

 for you sent your Son among us

 to rule the world with justice

 and he is Lord, forever and ever.