**Bidding Prayers – 1st Sunday Advent**

**26&27 Nov 2022 – Year A**

**Priest**

Heavenly Father, as we mark the beginning of the Church’s liturgical year and begin our Advent journey, help us to be enveloped in your presence as we await your joyful coming.

**Reader**

We pray for Pope Francis as he teaches us that spiritual consolation is *“a profound experience of interior joy, consisting in seeing God’s presence in everything.”* Let us begin our Advent journey in joyful hope and wonder. ***Pause*** ... Lord in your mercy ... **Hear our prayer**

We pray for residents that are currently living in one of the tens of thousands of homes throughout the UK that are deemed unsafe. Everyone should be provided with safe and warm shelter, help government leaders ensure this is the case. We particularly remember and pray for the toddler, Awaab Ishak, that died due to exposure to mould at home. ***Pause*** ... Lord in your mercy ... **Hear our prayer**

As energy bills rise, and temperatures plunge, we pray for those that are living in fear and anxiety for the coming months. We principally remember the elderly, infirm and isolated. ***Pause*** ... Lord in your mercy ... **Hear our prayer**

As the commercial side of Christmas is upon us, let us remember those that have nothing and remind ourselves the greatest gift we can give this year is our time and attention to those in need. ***Pause*** ... Lord in your mercy ... **Hear our prayer**

We continue to pray for the success of ventures at Holy Innocents, as we work to be an evangelising Parish, including the Cake sale this weekend, Café Joseph as a warm space, and our Evangelisation Cells. May all our activities increase people’s knowledge of Jesus Christ our saviour. ***Pause*** ... Lord in your mercy ... **Hear our prayer**

We bring our own prayers to our heavenly Father, in the silence of our hearts …

**PLEASE TAKE A LONG PAUSE**

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

We ask Mary to pray for us, as we say together: **Hail Mary…**

**Priest**

Lord, as we light our first Advent candle, we remember you are the light of the world. We bring all our prayers in your name, Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns for ever and ever, **Amen.**