

General intercessions
Fourth Sunday of Advent (B)

Celebrant: As we approach the celebration of the birth of our Saviour we confidently seek the generous love and mercy of our God.

Reader

That we may recognise the many blessings that God has given us so that our hearts may be grateful and our spirits filled with joy,

Lord, hear us ...

That our national and local governments will be responsive to the needs of their people, especially families with young children:

Lord, hear us ...

That all who are pregnant and afraid may welcome the life within them, and draw strength from the angel Gabriel's words to Mary, '*Do not fear.*'

Lord, hear us ...

That all who are busy making their final preparations to celebrate Christmas will take time to reflect on God's love for them:

Lord, hear us ...

That the poor, the sick, the lonely, and the neglected will experience God's love during this joyful season through the kindness of others:

Lord, hear us ...

For those who have died, that they may come to enjoy eternal glory in God's kingdom:

Lord, hear us ...

Celebrant:

Let us seek the prayers Our Lady, Ark of the Covenant: *Hail, Mary...*

Almighty God, prepare our hearts with your grace, that like Mary, we may be a worthy dwelling place for your Son. Through Christ our Lord.