Mary, the mother of Christ, is a sign to the church of faithful obedience to the will of God. As we come to the commemoration of the birth of Christ, let us pray that we like Mary, hear God's word and respond in obedient faith to the coming of Christ, saying: **Lord have mercy.** 

Let us pray for the church and every baptized member that we all may manifest Christ in the world. Let us pray to the Lord. *Lord have mercy*.

Let us pray for the leaders of the Church, for Todd our bishop, Robert our Rector, Tianna our Curate, and Tom and Stephanie our Deacons that they may be obedient to their calling and serve Christ at all times. Let us pray to the Lord. *Lord have mercy.* 

Let us pray for the leaders of government in every nation especially Charles our King, our Prime Minister and Parliament, that they may have the wisdom to choose what serves the common good. Let us pray to the Lord. *Lord have mercy*.

Let us pray for all who are in need, remembering all who are sick, the elderly, those who are alone, and all who minister to them, especially Nikki, Rob, Elaine, Richard, Ted, Olivia, Maggie, Pat, Susan, Taylor, Kim, Gwen, Gary, Louise, Alan, Jennifer, Anne, Virginia, Joan, Marian, Josh, Laurie, Jane, Michael, Kathie, John, Hadley, Doug, Nolan, Carolyn, Marg, Red, Christine, Beverly, Dennis, Peter, Beulah, Jim, Colleen and Family, Beverley, Barbara and all those affected by the tragedy at Bondi Beach, Australia that we all may be strengthened by the presence of Christ as the sign of God's love. Let us pray to the Lord. Lord have mercy.

Let us pray for those who celebrate, especially *Peter Mussen, Cecily Boyle* and for all those with whom we share our daily lives, our families, friends, neighbours, and those with whom we work and play, that we may all be strengthened and sustained by God's presence with us. Let us pray to the Lord. *Lord have mercy.* 

Let us pray for those who have died, especially that they may rest in peace. May we wait in hope for the promise of resurrection with them. Let us pray to the Lord. *Lord have mercy*.

Hasten, O God, the coming of your dominion. Come to us in Christ, that we who live by faith in this world may see our faith confirmed in the world to come, through our risen Christ.