**Second Sunday of Advent**

**Prayers of the Faithful**

**Celebrant:** As we await in hope the return of our Saviour, Jesus, we bring our prayers to the Father.

1. For those recently elected to represent us in government: may they govern with wisdom and a sense of purpose. May they support progress and uphold the rights of the most vulnerable in our country. **Lord, hear us.**
2. Bless us with an uncluttered and focused heart. May this Advent be a time of personal renewal and grace, drawing us closer to the profound mystery of the Incarnation. **Lord, hear us.**
3. For candidates preparing for initiation in the faith through ‘a baptism of repentance. May the example of Christians inspire and affirm their call to walk with integrity of life. **Lord, hear us.**
4. For those who will be received into the Order of the Catechumenate this weekend in our Diocese. Through an abundance grace and the power of the Holy Spirit, may they be counted among the members of the Church. **Lord, hear us.**
5. For those who are exploited through human trafficking: deliver them from all forms of bondage and help them rebuild their lives in safety and security. **Lord, hear us.**
6. For those who have lost their way through debt, addiction, crime, or gambling, that the Lord will strengthen them with truth and straighten their paths with integrity and wholeness. **Lord, hear us.**
7. For governments and world leaders, that the Advent message of hope will move them to renew their efforts to work for ‘peace through integrity’. **Lord, hear us.**
8. For those who have died: in the fullness of heavenly glory, may they ‘*put on the beauty of the glory of God forever*’. **Lord, hear us.**

**Celebrant:** Heavenly Father, teach us always to be patient in our waiting and trusting in our hope, that no prayer may go unanswered, no request be made in vain. We make these prayers through Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**