

Prayers 6 December – 2nd Sunday in Advent

In response to the message

Thank you loving Heavenly Father, that there is a Day coming when we will be with you forever. We understand that we cannot know when that day will come, so we ask your help to expect the unexpected and live each day ready for Jesus' return. We are also sobered by the reality that this same day will be a day of destruction for those who care nothing for you and have rejected you. So we pray for grace to keep trusting you and to share with unbelievers, the amazing nature of your love for them. Help us to reveal Father, in the great news that salvation is not something we can achieve by our efforts, but something to be we must receive through repentance and trust. This Advent, may our hearts be full of your joy, rather than anxiety about the trivialities of the Christmas season, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

For the spread of the gospel

Lord we long that more people know about Jesus' love for them. So we pray that you would cause the news of Christ to be proclaimed with power throughout central and western NSW. Renew us your people, so that we have your heart of compassion for those who are like sheep without a shepherd. Please raise up more gospel workers among us who will inspire and equip us to share the news of Jesus. Have mercy on those who have pushed you aside. Please soften their hearts and open their minds to consider again the reality of your love for them. We ask this in Jesus' name. **Amen.**

For those being ordained next Saturday

Lord hear our thanks for Wally Cox, Andrew Thornhill and Steven Klouth who will be ordained deacon next Saturday. Thank you for their heart to serve you in the west. Please send your blessing on their retreat with Bishop Mark this week, that they will feel ready in every way to make the searching promises in the ordination service. Please help them to settle well into Blayney, Coonabarabran and Kelso. May they be warmly welcomed and received both by the church and the community. May their ministries be greatly used of you, to build up your people, proclaim the good news and bring glory to your name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

For the sick, the bereaved, the dying

Hear our prayer gracious God, for all who are sick, bereaved or dying. Please strengthen them to trust in your all-sufficient grace. May they not lose heart or hope. Where it please you, would you heal and restore them? May those who face death, know the certainty of their forgiveness and salvation which comes through Jesus Christ alone. Give them grace to look forward with hope to all that awaits them in eternity. And may we be a blessing to all who are struggling, especially through our prayers and practical help. All this we ask in Jesus' name. **Amen.**