

# Universal Prayer

---

## 4 January 2026 (Epiphany)

**Presider:** With joy and confidence, knowing that God's light shines for all nations, let us bring our prayers to the Father who draws seekers from every corner of the earth.

**1. For Pope Leo and the Church:**

that we may shine with Christ's light and welcome all who seek Him.

*[pause] We pray to the Lord.*

**2. For leaders of nations:**

that they work for peace, justice, and the dignity of every person.

*[pause] We pray to the Lord.*

**3. For refugees, migrants, and displaced families:** that they find safety, compassion, and a home.

*[pause] We pray to the Lord.*

**4. For the sick, the lonely, and those burdened by anxiety:**

that Christ's light bring them comfort and hope.

*[pause] We pray to the Lord.*

**5. For the dead, especially those who died recently or alone:**

that they may see the glory of God face to face.

*[pause] We pray to the Lord.*

**Presider:** *God of Stars and Stable, you revealed your Son to the nations. Hear the prayers we offer today and guide our feet into the way of peace. We ask this through Christ our Lord.*

## Community Greeter | 4 January 2026

---

Welcome everyone to St John's for our celebration of Mass today during this Christmas season. We gather today on the lands of the Dharawal people. Our mission as a parish community is to know, follow and share Jesus with our neighbours.

- My name is \_\_\_\_\_
- Our celebrant is Fr Darren // Fr John // Fr Richard
- Today the Star stops over the manger, and the secret is out: God is not just for the few, but for the whole world. Let us adore Him.

We welcome anyone who is here for the first time, any visitors, and anyone who is new to the area. ***We are so glad that you are here with us!***

Let us now stand and unite as one to celebrate this Eucharist.

---

### ***[Only if no music...]***

Let us pray the entrance antiphon together:

Behold, the Lord, the Mighty One, has come;  
and kingship is in his grasp, and power and dominion.

---

### Penitential Act [Priest]

Before we celebrate God's revelation to the nations,  
let us acknowledge the ways we have failed to live in love. *[All pause for silent prayer.]*

Lord Jesus, you are the Light of the nations. Lord, have mercy.

Christ Jesus, you reveal God's mercy to all peoples. Christ, have mercy.

Lord Jesus, you guide us on the path of peace. Lord, have mercy.

May almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us our sins,  
and lead us to the life of the age to come. Amen.