

PRIEST

Dear friends, as the weeks of Advent pass, we look with growing hope for the coming of the Saviour. In peace and thankfulness, we pray for God's blessing on our world.

READER

For Pope Francis and all whose words and actions are good news for others, that their lives will be a leaven of love in our wounded world. (Pause) Let us pray to the Lord.

For the peoples of Oceania, that Australia will do all in its power to help them deal with civil unrest and climate change. (Pause) Let us pray to the Lord.

For all sectors of Australian society, that they heed the Baptist's call for an ethic of sharing, honesty and justice. (Pause) Let us pray to the Lord.

For family members and loved ones still separated by travel restrictions, that they will soon be able to meet again safely in person. (Pause) Let us pray to the Lord.

For households under increased stress at this time of the year, that they will find ways of defusing anger and easing the threat of violence. (Pause) Let us pray to the Lord.

For the recently deceased . . . and for those whose anniversary of death occurs around this time, that they will share to the full in God's eternal joy. (Pause) Let us pray to the Lord.

PRIEST

Bountiful God, you sent your servant John among us to baptise and preach. Keep us always on the way that leads to you. We ask this through Christ our Lord.