

**BIDDING PRAYERS: 31<sup>st</sup> December**  
**THE FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY**

- Priest:** Guided by the Spirit and gathered together in the house of the Lord, let us pray as a united family for our needs and those of all peoples.
- Reader:** For the Church; that she may continue to grow as the family of God, as promised to Abraham and that we may recognise in the midst of our family the One who comes from heaven to save us.  
Lord hear us .....Lord graciously hear us
- Reader:** For Pope Francis; may he continue to inspire us with his leadership and his witness to the presence of Christ in the weakest and the poorest of our society.  
Lord hear us .....Lord graciously hear us
- Reader:** For peace in our world, especially the Holy Land; that the multitude of nations may quickly discover their common destiny, the inheritance of peace and the covenant of God's love.  
Lord hear us .....Lord graciously hear us
- Reader:** For our families; that God may bless our families with the gift of love and joy; may He also grant strength and support when we face challenging and difficult times.  
Lord hear us .....Lord graciously hear us
- Reader:** For our Parish; that, gathered as one family at the table of the Word and the Eucharist, we may welcome Christ as a light of revelation and God's promise fulfilled.  
Lord hear us .....Lord graciously hear us
- Reader:** Let us remember especially today those for whom our masses are offered this weekend. Also, all the faithful departed, especially any dear loved ones who have died in the past year, and those of our who have died recently. May they be raised up on the last day.  
Lord hear us .....Lord graciously hear us
- Reader:** Let us pray for our own private intentions; (pause). We ask Mary, our Mother, to join her prayers to ours: **Hail Mary ...**
- Priest:** Father, we give you thanks for sending your own Son to bring us peace and joy. Hear our prayers in this Christmas season and enable us to celebrate your Son's birth with joyful and prayerful hearts.  
We make all our prayers through Christ Our Lord, Amen.