

**BIDDING PRAYERS**  
**THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT – “GAUDETE” SUNDAY**  
**15 December 2024**

**Priest:** With the encouragement of John the Baptist we prepare a way for the Lord by offering our prayers to our Heavenly Father in hopeful expectation of His plan for our salvation.

**Reader:** For the Our Holy Father Pope Francis; that, like John the Baptist he will proclaim in the wilderness of our world that we must truly prepare for the joy of the coming of Our Lord.  
Lord hear us .....Lord graciously hear us

**Reader:** For all peoples of earth especially nations at enmity with one another: may they turn from conflict toward mutual and lasting respect  
Lord hear us .....Lord graciously hear us

**Reader:** For all in need of food, clothing, adequate housing or suitable employment; may this season of grace bring them justice and hope for all their needs.  
Lord hear us .....Lord graciously hear us

**Reader:** For those who will find the approaching celebration of Christmas a time of sadness or anxiety; may we support them with our prayers and assist them with our resources.  
Lord hear us .....Lord graciously hear us

**Reader:** For all of us gathered here today to rejoice in the Lord: may we make room for the Christ Child to dwell in our lives, our families and our world.  
Lord hear us .....Lord graciously hear us

**Reader:** Let us remember especially today the intentions for which our Masses are offered this weekend. And also, all the faithful departed, especially, Andrew Sugden, Norman Brown, Christopher Ashton, Rita Swarbrick, Philomena Hanlon, Margaret Guinan who have died recently. May they rest in peace and rise in glory.  
Lord hear us .....Lord graciously hear us

**Reader:** Let us pray for our own private intentions; (pause). We ask Mary, our Mother, to intercede on our behalf: **Hail Mary ...**

**Priest:** Father, in this holy season of Advent, we ask that you bestow on your people the virtue of hope as we wait expectantly for the coming of your Son, who is Lord for ever and ever, Amen.