

Prayer of the Church - Sunday 6th December 2020 - Year B

Heavenly Father: We praise and thank you for the cleansing waters of baptism and our adoption as your heirs and co-heirs with Christ. Strengthen our faith and bless all who are preparing for baptism at this time, and those undergoing instruction. Lord in your mercy: **Hear our prayer**

Bless and watch over your church as it prepares for the celebration of the birth of Christ. Help us all to prepare for the coming of Christ by living a life of repentance. May the light of Christ uncover our sin so that we might be released from its destructive power. Lord in your mercy: **Hear our prayer**

We pray for the missions of the church and those called to preach the gospel. May all those who hear the gospel believe the good news and turn to you in faith. Help us to prepare the way for the gospel by pursuing justice in our society. Be with our pastors and lay workers and fill them with your spirit of truth and love. Call and inspire more people to serve you in public ministry for the harvest is plentiful but the labourers are few. Lord in your mercy: **Hear our prayer**

Thank you that Roland Adams, Philip Bentley, Christopher Johnstone, James Luk, Stephen Noblett, and Joseph Theodorsen are ordained into the Office of the Public Ministry today. Give them joy in their service, and sustain them in faith. Lord in your mercy: **Hear our prayer**

Graciously protect us from fire and flood, from war and disease, from famine and strife and from every kind of disaster. Support all people in their proper vocation, and help all those who are unemployed. Bless our arts and culture, our science and technology. Be with all widows and widowers, and provide for all children who have lost their parents. Help those who are sick and in need, and comfort those who are lonely and in trouble, in particular we uphold to you in prayer Betty Mattiske, John Wilksch, Jean Leach and those we name in our hearts {Pause}. Please also give your Spirit of consolation and comfort to all those who mourn the death of Todd Harrison. Lord in your mercy: **Hear our prayer**

Thank you for adopting Mia Quast into your family through Holy Baptism today. Bless her with growing trust in you, so that she may live life to the full. Lord in your mercy: **Hear our prayer**

Lord God, as your servant John the Baptist called your people to prepare a way for the Lord, let us always be prepared to receive the blessings that you freely give us through our Lord Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**