

**GENERAL INTERCESSIONS**  
**FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT (B)**  
**29 NOVEMBER 2020**



***Introduction:***

Father, O Shepherd of Israel,  
let your face shine upon your people  
Visit us and protect us.  
Give us life,  
that we may call upon your name.

(Ps 79)

***Reader***

1. *Stay awake for you do not know the hour:* that we may hear this call of Lord, not as a threat, but as a call to be alert and alive to the possibilities of each day and each encounter.

*Lord, hear us.*

2. *...we are the clay, you, Lord, the potter, we are all the work of your hand:* that our longing for you in the weeks of Advent *may soften our hearts* and form in us the image of your Son.

*Lord, hear us.*

3. *...he has left his servants in charge—each with their own task:* that we may embrace our responsibilities in families, in our communities, and in the faith.

*Lord, hear us.*

4. *lest he come unexpectedly and find you asleep:* that we may not be overwhelmed by the lost opportunities of our lives, but freed from fear and guilt, we may strive to do God's will day in day out.

*Lord, hear us.*

5. For those *who have enriched us in so many ways:* for those who serve our communities, who teach our children, who watch over the vulnerable, for people who bring beauty and brightness to this land and to ever land, that they may know your blessings in abundance.

*Lord, hear us.*

6. For the *gifts of the Spirit* for all people of good will: for wisdom, understanding, strength, respect for the sacred, and trust in you, Lord.

*Lord, hear us.*

***Presider***

7. Lord, in this time of pandemic, we pray for all who are unwell or isolated or afraid; we pray for those who care for them, for those whose livelihoods are threatened; we pray for those in leadership of State and Church—that they would *be steady* in these crucial days; we remember those who have asked us to pray for them, and our faithful departed (especially ...) that *they may be joined to God's Son* for ever and ever. *Lord, hear us.*

God our Father,  
you willed that your son in his lowliness,  
would share in the pain of the world.  
May our prayer and work  
keep us close to all our sisters and brothers  
in the midst of the suffering of this present time.  
Then we shall long for the kingdom of love  
with deeper hope and confidence  
through Jesus, the Christ, our Lord.

