

PRAYERS FOR EPIPHANY – Promise of His Glory, page 224

As the Wise Men knelt before our Saviour, let us also kneel to worship him with great joy, and to make our prayer to his heavenly Father.

Father, the wise men came from the east to worship your Son: give to Christians everywhere a true spirit of adoration. Help us to put worship first, to take time to think, pray, and adore. As we cope with worship so different to where we were last Epiphany, help us not to be downhearted, but to seek you, with the knowledge that we will find you.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Father, you are the King of Kings and Lord of Lords: grant an abundance of peace to your world. There are so many conflicts at the start of this new year, and a worldwide battle against Covid. We know this world is not at peace, and we know it wasn't two thousand years ago when the wise men travelled. Hope us as we continue to work, and pray, for your peace – bless the work of international agencies, and everything that brings humans together for good.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Father, the Holy Family shared the life of the people of Nazareth: protect in your mercy our neighbours and families, together with the whole community of which we are part. We pray for all of us as this virus goes on and on, and the situation gets worse. Be with our medical staff, men and women who have given so much, are so tired, and yet are asked to give more. Be with our schools as difficult decisions have to be made, may our children and their teachers be kept safe.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Father, though you were rich, for our sake you became poor: show your love for the poor and powerless, and strengthen all those who suffer. We pray for those who are depressed and frightened at the beginning of this new year. Those for whom the future is very dark and difficult, those who can no longer fight the battle and are struggling to keep going. We think of members of our church community we have not seen for ages, and we pray for those who are sick.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Father, the wise men presented to your Son gold, incense, and myrrh: accept the gifts we bring, and the offering of our hearts at the beginning of this new year. We pray for the economic life of our country, for our businesses, our charities, our churches, our Diocese, as we try and cope with the financial problems Covid is causing. We ask for strength to believe in your love, your gift, your purpose, as we journey through this year.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Father, you are the King of Heaven, the hope of all who trust in you: give to all the faithful departed the wonders of your salvation. We think of those we miss, for all who mourn this day.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Rejoicing in the fellowship of wise men, shepherds, and angels, and of the Blessed Virgin Mary and Saint Joseph, we commend ourselves and all humanity to your unfailing love.

EITHER

We pray together the prayer that Jesus taught us ...

OR

Merciful Father, **accept these prayers for the sake of your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.**