

PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL
January 1, The Solemnity of Mary

For the Church, may all of us be strengthened in our faith and pray for the peace of all our sisters and brothers.

Jesus, Son of Mary, we pray.

May all those from diverse religious traditions and all people of goodwill work together for justice and peace in the world. Give us this hope as we embark on this new year.

Jesus, Son of Mary, we pray.

May we – like Mary – become bearers of joy as we allow your love to become more and more alive in our lives.

Jesus, Son of Mary, we pray.

Help us to reflect on the ways you are moving in our own lives. As we come to realize their full meaning and significance, give us the courage to act according to your will. **Jesus, Son of Mary, we pray.**

Help us to remember that your love does not come to us from afar but rather it is like the sea and we are the fish.¹

Jesus, Son of Mary, we pray.

We earnestly pray for all those who are sick. We pray also for our loved ones who have died – may they rest in peace.

Jesus, Son of Mary, we pray.

For all the prayers we hold in the silence of our hearts.

Jesus, Son of Mary, we pray.

¹ From Thomas Merton's writings