

**PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL**  
**December 14-15, Third Sunday of Advent**

For the Church, that we may celebrate this season of the coming of the Messiah with compassion, generosity and joy, and thereby attract the disillusioned and cynical to the Good News of Jesus.  
**Lord of joy and peace, we pray.**

For the world, that all peoples of all nations recognize their duty to be wise stewards of earth's resources.  
**Lord of joy and peace, we pray.**

As the prophet said in today's reading, help us to truly know in our hearts that you are with us, that you delight in us and renew us, and that we cause you to sing with joy. **Lord of joy and peace, we pray.**

May we ever remember that you are always near – in your Word, in the Eucharist, and in each other. **Lord of joy and peace, we pray.**

We earnestly pray for those who are sick. We pray also for those who have died - may their souls rest in peace. **Lord of joy and peace, we pray.**

We lift up to you the prayers of this community, and those we hold in the silence of our hearts. **Lord of joy and peace, we pray.**