

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT
CYCLE B

Celebrant: As the Advent season begins, let us awake from our routine and indifferent life; listen and respond to the Lord who is challenging us to be alert and ready for him. As we put forth these petitions, with a joyful heart let our response be:

Lord, hear our prayer.

1. That the holy Catholic Church may be united in fidelity to our Holy Father Pope Francis and to our Bishop Paul and that unity and peace may be enjoyed by all. Let us pray to the Lord.

Response: *Lord, hear our prayer.*

2. That political leaders may act with integrity and set their aim for the welfare of everyone in the country. Let us pray to the Lord.

Response: *Lord, hear our prayer.*

3. That those who find life a burden too heavy to carry may find strength and hope in the Lord. Let us pray to the Lord.

Response: *Lord, hear our prayer.*

4. That each one of us gathered here may seek forgiveness and peace with one another in the sacrament of reconciliation. Let us pray to the Lord.

Response: *Lord, hear our prayer.*

5. That the coming of Christ may find us steadfast in faith, joyful in hope and untiring in love. Let us pray to the Lord.

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Celebrant: Hear our prayers, God our loving Father, as we prepare for the coming of your Son. Enable us to listen to his word and prepare our hearts for Him. We ask this through Christ our Lord. *Amen.*