

**RC Ayr**  
**Prayer for Peace & Benediction**  
**December 31st 2021**

*Hymn during Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament:*

Hark, the herald-angels sing  
glory to the new-born King;  
peace on earth and mercy mild,  
God and sinners reconciled:  
joyful, all ye nations rise,  
join the triumph of the skies,  
with th'angelic host proclaim,  
'Christ is born in Bethlehem.'

*Hark, the herald-angels sing  
glory to the new-born King.*

Christ, by highest heav'n adored,  
Christ, the everlasting Lord,  
late in time behold him come,  
offspring of the virgin's womb!  
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see,  
hail, th'incarnate Deity!  
Pleased as man with us to dwell,  
Jesus, our Emmanuel.

Hail, the heav'n-born Prince of Peace!  
Hail, the Sun of Righteousness!  
Light and life to all he brings,  
ris'n with healing in his wings;  
mild he lays his glory by,  
born that we no more may die,  
born to raise us from the earth,  
born to give us second birth.

*Period of silent prayer before the Blessed Sacrament*

***Prayer for Peace:*** (recited together)

O God, you are the source of life and peace.

Praised be your name forever.  
We know it is you who turn our minds to thoughts of peace.  
Hear our prayer in this time and place.  
Your power changes hearts.  
Muslims, Christians and Jews remember, and profoundly affirm,  
that they are followers of the one God,  
Children of Abraham, brothers and sisters;  
enemies begin to speak to one another;  
those who were estranged join hands in friendship;  
nations seek the way of peace together.  
Strengthen our resolve to give witness  
to these truths by the way we live.  
Give to us:  
Understanding that puts an end to strife;  
Mercy that quenches hatred, and  
Forgiveness that overcomes vengeance.  
Empower all people to live in your law of love  
Amen.

*Period of silent prayer before the Blessed Sacrament*

***Litany of Peace:***

Reader: In quietness and darkness,  
in peace and confusion,  
Jesus Christ wants to make his home and meet his friends.  
He is the light of life.

***All: He is the hope of the world.***

Reader: In him there is no Jew or Gentile.  
Neither Protestant nor Catholic.

***All: All are one in Jesus Christ.***

Reader: He is the light of life.

***All: He is the hope of the world.***

Reader: In him there is neither black nor white.

Neither First World nor Third World.

**All:** *All are one in Jesus Christ.*

Reader: He is the light of life.

**All:** *He is the hope for the world.*

Reader: In him there is neither male nor female.  
Neither master nor servant.

**All:** *All are one in Jesus Christ.*

Reader: He is the light of life.

**All:** *He is the hope of the world.*

Reader: In him there is neither rich nor poor.  
Neither middle class nor working class.

**All:** *All are one in Jesus Christ.*

Reader: He is the light of life.

**All:** *He is the hope for the world.*

**Reflection:** We welcome with gladness our new-born King  
(Mark Pentleton and Monica McCrorie)

*Period of silent prayer before the Blessed Sacrament*

Candles for the Continents

*We are now going to pray that each continent may be blessed with peace in the year 2022. A prayer will be said for each continent and then a candle will be lit for each .*

***We pray first for peace on the continent of Africa,  
the poorest of the continents.***

We light our Peace Candle for Africa.

*Next we pray for peace on the continent of The Americas,  
the most powerful continent.*

We light our Peace Candle for The Americas.

*Now we pray for peace in Asia, the largest of the continents.*

We light our Peace Candle for Asia.

*We now pray for peace on the world's richest continent, Europe.*

We light our Peace Candle for Europe.

*Finally we pray for the smallest, but most diverse continent, Oceania.*

We light our Peace Candle for Oceania.

Benediction

***Hymn:***

Silent night, holy night.  
All is calm, all is bright,  
round yon virgin mother and child;  
holy infant, so tender and mild,  
sleep in heavenly peace,  
sleep in heavenly peace.

Silent night, holy night.

Shepherds quake at the sight,  
glories stream from heaven afar,  
heav'nly hosts sing alleluia:  
Christ, the Saviour is born,  
Christ, the Saviour is born.

Silent night, holy night.  
Son of God, love's pure light,  
radiant beams from thy holy face,  
with the dawn of redeeming grace:  
Jesus, Lord at thy birth,  
Jesus Lord at thy birth.

***Prayer:***

Fr David: Lord, give to our hearts the light of faith,  
the fire of love, and the desire for peace,  
that we may worship in spirit and in truth  
our God and Lord, present in this sacrament,  
who lives and reigns for ever and ever.

*All: Amen.*

***Reading:***

Luke 9: 11-17

Jesus made the crowds welcome and talked to them about the kingdom of God; and he cured those who were in need of healing. It was late afternoon when the Twelve came to him and said, 'Send the people away, and they can go to the villages and farms round about to find lodging and food; for we are in a lonely place here.' He replied, 'Give them something to eat yourselves.' But they said, 'We have no more than five loaves and two fish, unless we are to go ourselves and buy food for all these people.' For there were about five thousand men. But he said to his disciples, 'Get them to sit down in parties of about fifty.' They did so and made them all sit down. Then he took the five loaves and two fish, raised his eyes to heaven, and said the blessing over them; and he broke them and handed them to his disciples to distribute among the crowd. They all ate as much as they wanted, and when the scraps remaining were collected they filled twelve baskets.

*Period of silent prayer before the Blessed Sacrament*

**Prayer:** Fr David: You have given your people bread from heaven.

*All: The bread which is full of all goodness.*

Fr David: Let us pray.

O God, who in this most wonderful sacrament  
has left us a memorial of your passion,  
help us to reverence the sacred mysteries  
of your Body and Blood,  
that we may always experience in our lives  
the effects of your redemption:  
who lives and reigns for ever and ever.

*All: Amen.*

**Hymn:**

Tantum ergo Sacramentum  
veneremur cernui:  
et antiquum documentum  
novo cedat ritui;  
praestet fides supplementum  
sensuum defectui.

Genitori, genitoque  
laus et jubilatio,  
salus, honor, virtus, quoque  
sit et benedictio;  
procedenti ab utroque  
compar sit laudatio. Amen.

**Divine Praises:**

Blessed be God.  
Blessed be his holy Name.  
Blessed be Jesus Christ, true God and true Man.  
Blessed be the Name of Jesus.  
Blessed be his most Sacred Heart.  
Blessed be his most Precious Blood.  
Blessed be Jesus in the most holy sacrament of the Altar.  
Blessed be the Holy Spirit, the Paraclete.  
Blessed be the great Mother of God, Mary most Holy.  
Blessed be her holy and Immaculate Conception.  
Blessed be her glorious Assumption.  
Blessed be the name of Mary, Virgin and Mother.  
Blessed be St. Joseph, her most chaste spouse.  
Blessed be God in his Angels and in his Saints.

***Benediction:***  
***Hymn:***

Adeste fideles,  
laeti triumphantes;  
venite, venite in Bethlehem;  
natum videte regem angelorum:

*Venite adoremus, (2)*  
*venite adoremus Dominum.*

Deum de Deo,  
lumen de lumine,  
gestant puellae viscera:  
Deum verum, genitum, non factum:

Cantet nunc Io!  
Chorus angelorum:  
cantet nunc aula caelestium;  
Gloria in excelsis Deo!

Ergo qui natus  
die hodierna,  
Jesu tibi sit gloria:  
Patris aeterni Verbum caro factum!