

Jan 3rd 2021 - Epiphany

Let us pray.

Loving Lord, look down upon your world, which has been covered by the darkness of pandemic for so long. Many times this year your people have felt fear, isolation, loss and hopelessness in the face of this threat to our health and way of life.

But amidst this bleakness and blackness, we know that there is comfort. The baby born in the stable has arisen and shines His light of hope, and His angels have imparted His promise of better times to come.

Bless everyone who is working towards the end of this dark time: the scientists developing their vaccines and the test subjects who put their lives on the line to make sure it is safe; the medical staff administering the vaccine, and the planners who make sure that it is in the right place at the right time. But most of all, Lord, we ask for you to shine your light upon those caring for the sick in our hospitals and homes. Fill them with the certainty of an end to the darkness, strengthen their efforts, and take care of them in these last hours before the dawn.

Heavenly Lord, at this time of Epiphany, when we remember the wise men seeking your presence, following your star, and worshipping you with great joy, we ask for your blessing on us, in the words of the lovely hymn:

As with gladness men of old
Did the guiding star behold
As with joy they hailed its light
Leading onward, beaming bright
So, most gracious God, may we
Evermore be led to Thee

Almighty Father, accept these prayers for the sake of your son, Jesus Christ. Amen.