

**Universal Prayer**  
**Solemnity of the Nativity of the Lord**  
**December 24 & 25**

We pray that by celebrating the Incarnation – God becoming flesh – all members of the Church will recognize the personal nature of our God, and seek to become closer to him each day through prayer.

We pray for all who have been away from the Church. May the Holy Spirit rekindle the desire in their hearts to come home and receive God's grace through the sacraments of the Church.

We pray for the nations of the world where civil unrest, government corruption, violence, and oppression are the norm. May God deliver these people from every obstruction that prevents them from living a dignified life.

We pray that the common belief in the Birth of Christ will serve as a source of unity to tear down the barriers that separate Christian denominations.

We pray in gratitude for the first responders and all other public service workers who will spend this holiday away from their loved ones caring for others.

During this season of joy, we pray for those who are struggling to celebrate because of family conflict, divorce, separation by distance, or grief from the death of a loved one. May the Holy Spirit fill their homes and hearts with comfort, love, and peace during this difficult time.

We pray that the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, will rest in peace...

4:30 ...and for **George & Donna Bender – and – Hilda Schaefer** who are remembered in this Mass.

11:00 ...and for **Bob Waeltz – Eleanor Thoman – and – Brian Hendricks** who are remembered in this Mass.

10:00 ...and for **Robert and Clara Schachner – and – Robert Braswell** who are remembered in this Mass.