Christmas Year B January 3rd The Epiphany of the Lord

***Optional***

***Response for***

***Prayer of Faithful***

**Welcome before Mass**: (Commentator)

Tēnā Koutou Katoa. A very warm welcome to everyone. Today is the feast of the Epiphany, meaning, manifestation. It proclaims that the child Jesus belongs to, and is given to the whole world as its Saviour. With the magi the world brings to Jesus its varieties of gifts: its many cultures and identities. As people from other nations do, we bring the gift of ourselves: our faith, our fidelity, our relationships, our love. Let us be silent for a few moments as we bring our lives to this liturgy. **(20 … seconds - stay at microphone).** Welcome to ……………………… (*parish name*). Let us stand and sing with joy.

**Prayer of the Faithful**

**For the Church** – that it will be an institution of justice and peace

(Silence) **Reader:** (sung) Lord born anew hear our prayer **All:** Christ our Lord hear our prayer.

**For leaders of nations –** that world leaders ensure religious freedom to their people and that citizens of countries are respectful of all religions.

(Silence) **Reader:** (sung) Lord born anew hear our prayer **All:** Christ our Lord hear our prayer.

**For groups that endure abuse because of their religion –** that we all learn to develop a consciousness of respect for one another, and that community leaders act to ensure people are free to engage with their own religious practices.

(Silence) **Reader:** (sung) Lord born anew hear our prayer **All:** Christ our Lord hear our prayer.

**For small children** – that, especially those in refugee camps or who live in poverty, and all small children, will be cared for by people worthy of trust, and will have their needs for food, warmth, shelter and love, fully met.

(Silence) **Reader:** (sung) Lord born anew hear our prayer **All:** Christ our Lord hear our prayer.

**For our planet –** that we see, value and protect the extraordinary natural world we live in.

(Silence) **Reader:** (sung) Lord born anew hear our prayer **All:** Christ our Lord hear our prayer

**For travelers during the holiday period** – that people will ensure safety on our roads by being attentive to road rules and by acting courteously and respectfully toward other road users.

(Silence) **Reader:** (sung) Lord born anew hear our prayer **All:** Christ our Lord hear our prayer.

**For all who are gathered here now** – that we will be generous with our own gifts, talents and treasures.

(Silence) **Reader:** (sung) Lord born anew hear our prayer **All:** Christ our Lord hear our prayer.

**For our local community of**………………….. That\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Please add a prayer for your local community.

(Silence) **Reader:** Lord born anew hear our prayer **All:** Christ our Lord hear our prayer.

**Concluding Prayer**

Source of light and life, today you revealed your Son as the light of all peoples. May we follow him and come to the light that shines forever. We ask this through Christ, our Lord. …**Amen**