3rd Advent Year C December 12th Gaudete Sunday

**Welcome before Mass**: (Commentator)

Tēnā Koutou Katoa – Haere mai. Good morning and a warm welcome to you, on this day, the third Sunday of Advent, the Sunday we call Gaudete Sunday – a day of great rejoicing. Today, we are called to be people of joy because in our midst is the Holy one who removes all judgement against us, who rejoices and delights in each of us. I warmly welcome you to ………………………… (Parish name). Let us be silent for a moment, as we prepare to meet Jesus in this liturgy **(20 seconds - stay at microphone).** Welcome! Let’s stand and sing together.

**Prayer of the Faithful**

The reader reads each petition. In the **silence**, the people pray in their own hearts for that petition. It is important to give a time of silence, so each person can form their prayer.

**For the Church** – that all the baptized respond to the call of John the Baptist, giving away what we don’t need, speaking with integrity and grace, showing kindness to all, and acting justly in our dealings.

(Silence) **Reader:** E te Ariki All: whakarongo mai rā ki a mātou

**For national and international leaders –** that a great and united effort will be made to vaccinate and care for refugees and people in poor nations, against Covid-19.

(Silence) **Reader:** E te Ariki All: whakarongo mai rā ki a mātou

**For Aotearoa New Zealand** – that as our country opens up in new alert levels, people will be attentive to the needs and fears of others, act with kindness, and follow health guidelines.

(Silence) **Reader:** E te Ariki All: whakarongo mai rā ki a mātou

**For people who are jobless or financially burdened** - that kindness will excel in our communities and those who are vulnerable will experience understanding, support, love and care, from neighbours, friends, family, religious and other caring agencies.

(Silence) **Reader:** E te Ariki All: whakarongo mai rā ki a mātou

**For people burdened by guilt or failure –** that they will come to experience the joy of knowing God rejoices over them with gladness, and removes all judgement against them.

(Silence) **Reader:** E te Ariki All: whakarongo mai rā ki a mātou

**For ourselves** – that we live with a sense of joy, knowing that God, Emmanuel, is present in our midst.

(Silence) **Reader:** E te Ariki All: whakarongo mai rā ki a mātou

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

Please add a prayer for your local community.

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(Silence) **Reader:** E te Ariki All: whakarongo mai rā ki a mātou

**Concluding Prayer:**

God of goodness and life, you call us to sing joyfully, to be glad and exult with all our heart, for you have removed all judgement against us and turned our enemies away. You are steadfast in our midst: you rejoice over us. By your grace, may we trust in your goodness. We ask this through Christ our Lord… **Amen.**