

Jan. 14 Intercessions SECOND SUNDAY OF EPIPHANY

Jesus, the Christ, unlocks the mysteries of God.

Let us pray to God, who knows us better than we know ourselves, and understands our world.

The congregational response, as printed in to-day's bulletin, is: Draw us closer:
closer to the heart of God.

Lord, we know we are called to be the Body of Christ; make us worthy of that calling, fervent in all our prayer and worship, loving, faithful and honest in our lives, so that the whole Church displays what God is like. (pause)
Draw us closer: **closer to the heart of God.**

We pray for the grace and wisdom to care for this world we have been given as our home; for perception in the difficult decisions, and commitment to justice and peace. (pause)
Draw us closer: **closer to the heart of God.**

We pray for the homes of this parish, whose hopes and struggles, sorrows and fears are already known to you. May each household be blessed as we pray, and may your love fill each life. (pause) Draw us closer: **closer to the heart of God.**

We pray for all who do not yet know you, and all whose hearts are poisoned with hate or weighed down with despair. May your light scatter their darkness and bring them hope and healing. (pause) Draw us closer: **closer to the heart of God.**

We pray for those who have died to this life and are born into your heaven; comfort those who miss their physical presence, and bring us all to share in the fullness of your life. (pause)
Draw us closer: **closer to the heart of God.**

We give you thanks for all that points us towards the beauty of your love, and draws us closer to you.

**Heavenly Father, accept these prayers for the sake of your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ.
Amen.**