

Christmas Prayer Collection from CAFOD

God of Joy

God of joy remind me to rejoice
wrapped up in my Christmas gifts
tied down in my debts that I have forgotten.

God of peace remind me of your calm
in my anxiety and my haste
I have forgotten.

God of all, remind me
of the true light of Christmas
of your gift shared.

In my own wants and my own needs
I have forgotten wrapped up in
my own little world
remind me of your world God of joy
remind me to rejoice. Amen.
Linda Jones/CAFOD



Wake up Wake up and hear our cry

As we journey with the Holy Family to Bethlehem, we pray for all who make forced journeys. Give them strength to carry on and courage to walk the road ahead.

Wake up, little baby Jesus and hear our cry

As we hear the innkeeper say there is no room, we pray for refugees for whom there is no country. Gather them to yourself and keep them free from harm.

Wake up, little baby Jesus and hear our cry

As we contemplate that first Christmas night, we pray for those with nowhere to lay their head. Comfort them in their need and uphold them in their plight.

Wake up, little baby Jesus and hear our cry

As we listen to the cry of the infant king we pray for children everywhere born into poverty. Wrap them in your love and uphold them in your tender mercy.

Wake up, little baby Jesus and hear our cry

As we remember the fear of the shepherds in the presence of the angels, we pray for all who are afraid to look ahead. Reassure them with

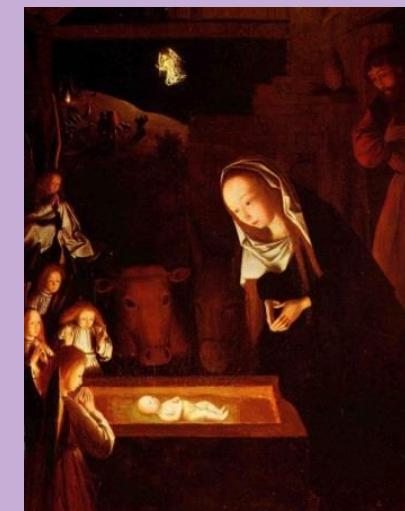
Your presence and embolden them to face the future.

Wake up, little baby Jesus and hear our cry

As we recall the flight of the Holy Family into Egypt, we pray for all who flee from danger. Enfold them in your care and challenges to offer our protection.

Wake up, little baby Jesus and hear our cry that justice may be born.

Annabel Shilson-Thomas/CAFOD
(slightly amended)



The Boat of Injustice

Vulnerable God,
As we contemplate the wonder of your birth,
stir in us the desire to cradle those who have
nowhere to lay their head,
that together we may rock the boat of injustice.
Give us grace to offer our hand to those who
reach out, that with faltering steps we may find
a way home, and kindle our hearts to embrace
the rejected and dispossessed
and so meet you face to face.
We ask this in your name. Amen.

Annabel Shilson-Thomas/CAFOD



The Hope of Christmas

God, our dayspring and our dawn,
we turn to you when we fear the dark
and all around us weep.
We pray you greet us with your shining light
that we may spread your warm embrace,
and kindle the hope of Christmas
in all whose lives remain in shadow.
Come and be our strength,
O Lord, our hope and our salvation. Amen.
Annabel Shilson-Thomas/CAFOD



Bethlehem

With the shepherds of Bethlehem
help us, O Lord, to
stand in vigil on the
eve of your coming,
to run with haste to
meet you,
to see your face in
the faces of others
and to wake from our
sleep as a new world
is being born.



With the angels of Bethlehem help us, O Lord, to
tell the whole world of your presence. God is
with us! Let us create peace amongst people
and work for justice amongst nations.

With Jesus, the infant Christ help us, O lord,
To cherish the hope that is born at Advent, to
hear the calling of your people, to nurture the
seeds of your Kingdom, and through the actions
to be messengers of your love in building
communities of service and prayer. Amen.

This prayer was sent by Miguel Alonzo Macias