Merciful God, who made that first Christmas night so beauteous and bright, we ask You to bless us once again with Your gentle yet powerful Presence. As we experience the cold nights and bitter winds of this world, remind us that You have not left us alone, but have promised to be our Emmanuel, God-with-us. You once slept in a stable in Bethlehem, while shepherds and Magi visited You. Now, You dwell in glory in the Holy Eucharist, waiting once again for us to adore You. Please fill us with Your gift of heavenly peace, and open our eyes to Your Presence in our midst.

We ask this through Christ, our Lord. Amen.

A Prayer from Fr. Adam Pantaleo, Associate Priest at St. Michael’s Cathedral Basilica