



RESOURCES FOR A PEACE VIGIL
IN HARMONY WITH
POPE LEO XIV
ST. PETER'S BASILICA
APRIL 11, 2026





ABOUT THIS RESOURCE

CONTENTS

Introduction	3
A Message from Archbishop Paul Coakley, President, USCCB	4
Sample Prayer Service Outside Mass	5
Anticipated Mass – Second Sunday of Easter / Divine Mercy Sunday	11
Holy Hour with Exposition and Benediction	13
Music Suggestions	15
Suggested Readings	17
Sample Prayers	19
Sample Intercessions	21

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INTRODUCTION

POPE LEO'S INVITATION

On Easter Sunday, Pope Leo XIV delivered his first “Urbi et Orbi” message (“to the city and the world”) from the central balcony of St. Peter’s Basilica in Vatican City. He spoke eloquently of the current state of the world and the peace that Christ promises.

In the light of Easter, let us allow ourselves to be amazed by Christ! Let us allow our hearts to be transformed by his immense love for us! Let those who have weapons lay them down! Let those who have the power to unleash wars choose peace! Not a peace imposed by force, but through dialogue! Not with the desire to dominate others, but to encounter them!

He concluded his remarks with an invitation to join him in a prayer vigil for peace on Saturday, April 11 at St. Peter’s. It has since been announced that that will take place at 6:00 PM (Rome time).

TIME ZONES

At this writing [April 8], no plans have been announced for televising this event on broadcast, cable, or social media. While it may be possible to pray simultaneously with the Pope’s prayer service at Saint Peter’s, it is important to note that Vatican City is six hours ahead of our Eastern time zone, so that would translate as Noon (Eastern); 11:00 AM (Central); 10:00 AM (Mountain); and 9:00 AM (Pacific).

REQUESTS FOR RESOURCES

It is important that we all pray fervently and frequently for peace. In the past two days, I have received multiple calls from dioceses and parishes asking for resources for private prayer, structured prayer services, and other suggestions so that we might all answer Pope Leo’s call to pray for peace.

The following pages attempt to give you materials which you might use in your cathedrals, parishes, and homes. They might be used on April 11 or on any day. They may be used to begin parish meetings, Mystagoga sessions, Bible Study sessions, choir rehearsals, etc. Selected prayers might be used during a period of adoration.

In this holy Easter Season, may we always be aware of our baptismal duty to give witness to the Resurrection and to share Christ’s message with the world “Peace be with you” (John 20:19). ■

Rita A. Thiron
On behalf of the Federation

A MESSAGE FROM ARCHBISHOP PAUL S. COAKLEY PRESIDENT OF THE USCCB

April 7, 2026

*The following message appeared on the USCCB website from the Office of Public Affairs
<https://www.usccb.org/news/2026/archbishop-coakley-invites-all-join-pope-leo-xivs-vigil-peace-midst-threats-increased>*

WASHINGTON – “I call on President Trump to step back from the precipice of war and negotiate a just settlement for the sake of peace and before more lives are lost,” said Archbishop Paul S. Coakley, president of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops. With the threat of increased military action, including the targeting of civilian infrastructure in Iran, Archbishop Coakley underscored [Pope Leo XIV’s appeals](#) during Holy Week and Easter for peace.

Archbishop Coakley’s full statement follows:

“The threat of destroying a whole civilization and the intentional targeting of civilian infrastructure cannot be morally justified. There are other ways to resolve conflict between peoples. I call on President Trump to step back from the precipice of war and negotiate a just settlement for the sake of peace and before more lives are lost.

“After his resurrection, Jesus appeared to his disciples in Jerusalem, and his first words were ‘Peace be with you.’ As the Holy Father, in his [Urbi et Orbi message](#) on Easter reflected, the peace that ‘Jesus gives us is not a peace that merely silences the weapons, but one that touches and transforms the heart of each of us! Let us make heard the cry for peace that springs from our hearts!’

“Pope Leo has invited everyone to join him in a prayer vigil for peace on Saturday, April 11. I make a special plea to my brother bishops, the priests, the laity, and all people yearning for true peace to join the Holy Father’s Vigil for Peace, whether virtually, or in parishes, chapels, or before the Lord present in the quiet of their hearts to join with our Holy Father as we pray for peace in our world. “Let us entrust to the Lord ‘all hearts that suffer and await the true peace that only he can give. Let us entrust ourselves to him and open our hearts to him! He is the only one who makes all things new (cf. Rev 21:5).”

SAMPLE PRAYER SERVICE OUTSIDE MASS

INTRODUCTORY RITE

HYMN

Please see suggestions on page ___

SIGN OF THE CROSS

Leader: ✠ In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

All: Amen.

GREETING

Bishop: Peace be with you.

All: And with your spirit.

OR

Leader: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

All: And with your spirit.

INTRODUCTION

Leader: Brothers and sisters,
we live in an age where war is waging and tensions are mounting
all over the world.
Innocent lives have been lost.
Cities have been destroyed.
Weapons of war have replaced diplomacy and dialogue.
Often, we fear we cannot do anything to stop the madness.

But we are not powerless.
Tonight [today], we gather to pray –
to invoke God's almighty power to bring order to his Creation;
to ask Christ, the Prince of Peace, to bring an end to violence;
and to ask the Holy Spirit to give us the gift of his peace.

OPENING PRAYER

Collect, Mass for the Preservation of Peace and Justice

Leader: O God, who have revealed
that peacemakers are to be called your children,
grant, we pray,
that we may work without ceasing to establish that justice
which alone ensures true and lasting peace.
Through our Lord, Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
God, for ever and ever.

All: Amen

THE WORD OF GOD

See alternative readings on page ___

FIRST READING

Philippians 4:6-9

A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Philippians

Brothers and sisters,
Have no anxiety at all, but in everything,
by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving,
make your requests known to God.
Then the peace of God that surpasses all understanding
will guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.

Finally, brothers and sisters
whatever is true, whatever is honorable
whatever is just, whatever is pure,
whatever is lovely, whatever is gracious,
if there is any excellence
and if there is anything worthy of praise,
think about these things.
Keep on doing what you have learned and received
and heard and seen in me.
Then God will be at peace with you.

The word of the Lord.

The Lord speaks of peace to his people.

I will hear what God proclaims;
the LORD – for he proclaims peace.
Near indeed is his salvation to all who fear him,
glory dwelling in our land.

The Lord speaks of peace to his people.

Kindness and truth shall meet;
justice and peace shall kiss.
Truth shall spring out of the earth,
and justice shall look down from heaven.

The Lord speaks of peace to his people.

The LORD himself will give his benefits;
our land shall yield its increase.
Justice shall walk before him,
and salvation along the way of his steps.

The Lord speaks of peace to his people.

Alleluia, alleluia
Blessed are the peacemakers;
they shall be called children of God
Alleluia, alleluia

A reading from the holy gospel according to John.

On the evening of the first day of the week,
when the doors were locked, where the disciples were,
for fear of the Jews,
Jesus came and stood in their midst
and said to them, "Peace be with you."
When he had said this, he showed them his hands and his side.
The disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord.
Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you.
As the Father has sent me, so I send you."
And when he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them,
"Receive the Holy Spirit.
Whose sins you forgive are forgiven them,
and whose sins you retain are retained."

The Gospel of the Lord

HOMILY/REFLECTION

INTERCESSORY PRAYER

INVITATION TO PRAYER

Leader: Confident in the love of the Father,
let us turn to him with our petitions.

PETITIONS

Reader: That all members of the Church may bear witness to the Resurrection
and share the peace that only Christ can give, we pray.

That world leaders will seek peace through diplomatic means and
thoughtful dialogue, we pray.

That all who are in harm's ways, especially innocent children,
may be spared from injury or death, we pray.

That all members of the military may be protected in battle and find
mercy in captivity, we pray.

For all victims of war, that they may rest forever in the peace of God's
kingdom.

LORD'S PRAYER

Leader: Gathering our prayers and praises into one,
let us pray in the words our Savior gave us:

All: Our Father, ...

CONCLUDING PRAYER

Leader: Heavenly Father,
You sent your Only Begotten Son
to bring peace and salvation to the world.
Make us more worthy of his sacrifice
and make us messengers of his peace.
Hear the prayers of your people
and in your mercy, answer them.

CONCLUDING RITE

GREETING

Leader: The Lord be with you.
All: And with your spirit.

BLESSING

Leader: May the peace of God,
which surpasses all understanding,
keep your hearts and minds
in the knowledge and love of God,
and of his Son, our Lord Jesus Christ.

All: Amen

Leader: And may the blessing of almighty God,
the Father, and the Son, ✠ and the Holy Spirit,
come down on you and remain with you for ever.

All: Amen.

OR

Lay Leader: May almighty God bless us, ✠ protect us from all evil,
and bring us to everlasting life.

All: Amen.

DISMISSAL

Leader: Go in peace, glorifying the Lord by your life.

All: Thanks be to God.

HYMN

See suggestions herein

ANTICIPATED MASS

SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER / SUNDAY OF DIVINE MERCY

The orations and readings of the day must be used.

INTRODUCTORY RITE

Entrance Chant/Opening Hymn _____

Greeting

Penitential Act [Sprinkling Rite] sung _____ recited _____

Glory to God sung _____ recited _____

Collect Roman Missal, page _____

LITURGY OF THE WORD

First Reading Acts 2:42-47
All who believed were together and had all things in common

Responsorial Psalm Psalm 118:2-5, 13-15, 22-24
Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, his love is everlasting
OR Alleluia.
Setting: _____

Second Reading 1 Peter 1:3-9
God has given us a new birth to a living hope
through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead.

Gospel Acclamation John 20:29
You believe, Thomas, because you have seen me, says the Lord;
blessed are they who have not seen me , but still believe!

Gospel John 20:19-31
Eight days later Jesus came and stood in their midst.

Homily

Profession of Faith Nicene Creed _____ Apostles' Creed _____

Universal Prayer _____

LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

Preparation of the Altar and Gifts

Presentation Hymn _____

Prayer over the Offerings Roman Missal, page ____

Eucharistic Prayer I II III IV *(When the Roman Canon is used, the proper forms of the Communicantes and Hanc Igitur are said.)*

Preface Dialogue
Preface Preface I of Easter: The Paschal Mystery
Holy, holy, holy _____
Memorial Acclamation _____
Great Amen _____

The Lord's Prayer recited ____ chanted ____

Sign of Peace

Fraction of the Bread Lamb of God: _____

Invitation to Communion

Communion Hymn(s) _____

Prayer after Communion Roman Missal, page ____

CONCLUDING RITE

[Announcements]

Greeting

Solemn Blessing Easter Time #6

Dismissal [Double Alleluia]

[Closing Hymn] _____

HOLY HOUR WITH EXPOSITION AND BENEDICTION

Please see Holy Communion and Worship of the Eucharistic Mystery Outside Mass, nos. 93-100

[If adoration immediately follows Mass, Mass ends with the Prayer after Communion.]

EXPOSITION

The Blessed Sacrament is taken from the place of reservation and placed on the altar in a monstrance [or in a ciborium]. The presider is accompanied by servers with lighted candles

Incensation

Eucharistic Song

O Salutaris Hostia / O Saving Victim or other suitable song

PERIOD OF ADORATION

- *Periods of silent prayer are supplemented with prayers, songs, readings, a brief homily or exhortations (HCWEMOM, 95)*
- *See all options in Chapter Five of HCWEMOM*
- *See also readings and music suggestions, regarding peace, enclosed in this resource.*
- *The celebration of the Hours according to the liturgical day may also take place (HCWEMOM, 96) Please see the next page, herein.*

BENEDICTION

A lay person does not offer Benediction

The presider genuflects and kneels

Liturgical Song -- Tantum Ergo or other suitable song (see HCWEMOM, Appendix , no. 11)

The Minister incenses the monstrance, while kneeling

Prayer or Collect of the Day (see also HCWEMOM, nos. 224-229)

Presider puts on a humeral veil, then takes the monstrance or ciborium and makes the sign of the cross over the people without saying anything.

Divine Praises before reposition [optional] HCWEMOM, no. 99

REPOSITION

The Assembly sings a hymn (regarding peace)

See suggestions herein

EVENING PRAYER WITH EXPOSITION AND BENEDICTION

EXPOSITION AND ADORATION

Entrance of the Ministers in silence

Exposition

Incensation and Song

A Period of Silent Prayer

INTRODUCTORY RITE

Introductory Verse

Doxology

Hymn

PSALMODY

as assigned for the liturgical day

Antiphon I

Psalm

Psalm Prayer

Antiphon I

Antiphon II

Psalm

Psalm Prayer

Antiphon II

Antiphon III

NT Canticle

Antiphon III

THE WORD OF GOD

Reading

Silence

Responsory

GOSPEL CANTICLE

Antiphon

Canticle of Mary/Luke 1: 46-55

Setting: _____

INTERCESSORY PRAYER

Invitation

Petitions

Lord's Prayer

BENEDICTION

Hymn

Prayer

Blessing

Reposition

Proper to the Day or a Collect on the Eucharist

MUSIC SUGGESTIONS ♦ PEACE

Includes suggestions from Julie Grace Males (Region IV)

Bearerers of Peace

Text and music: Bernadette Farrell

Tune: SOMERSTOWN © 1999, Bernadette Farrell and OCP.

Diverse in Culture, Nation, Race

Text: Ruth Duck, b. 1947 © 1992, GIA Publications, Inc.

Tune: TALLIS' CANON, LM; Thomas Tallis, (c. 1510-1583)

Dona Nobis Pacem

Text and Music: Gregory Norbert, b. 1940 © 1994 Gregory Norbert, published by OCP

Dona Nobis Pacem Domine

Text: Psalm 85:9, Matthew 5:9, John 14:27, Ephesians 2:14-17, Taizé community

Tune: Jacques Berthier © 1982, Les Presses de Taizé, GIA Publications, Inc., agent

Everything That Has Voice

Text: Shirley Erena Murray © 2003, Hope Publishing Company

Tune: SING FOR PEACE 6 33 6 33 77 6 3; Marty Haugen © 2005, GIA Publications, Inc.

Give Us Your Peace

Text: Michael Mahler, b. 1981.

Tune: Michael Mahler. (2001, GIA Publications, Inc.

In Christ There is No East or West

Text: Galatians 3:28; John Oxenham, 1852-1941, alt.

Tune: McKEE, CM; adapted by Harry Burleigh, (1866-1949)

Let There be Peace on Earth

Text and Music: Sy Miller (1908-1971) and Jill Jackson (1923-1995)

© 1955, 1983 Jan-Lee Music (ASCAP)

Make Me a Channel of Your Peace

Text: Ascribed to St. Francis of Assisi, adapted by Sebastian Temple

Tune: Sebastian Temple © 1967, OCP

O Day of Peace

Text: Carl P. Daw, Jr. © 1982, Hope Publishing Company

Tune: JERUSALEM, LMD Charles H.H. Parry; harm. Richard Proulx © 1986, GIA Publications, Inc.

O God of Every Nation

Text: William W. Reid, b. 1923; last. (1958, 1986. The Hymn Society (Admin by Hope Publishing Co.,)

Tune: PASSION CHORALE 7676D, Hans Leo Hassler, 1564-1612; harm. by J.S. Bach 1685-1750.

O God of Love, O King of Peace

Text: Henry Baker (1821-1871) © Lorenz Publishing.

Alt. Text: Sarah Hart; refrain by Henry Baker (OCP Choral Series #91242)

Oh, Look and Wonder/ *Mire Qué Bueno*

Text: Psalm 133, Pablo D. Sosa, b. 1933

Tune: Pablo D. Sosa. © 1972, GIA Publications, Inc.

Peace

Text: based on John 14:27; Weston Priory, Gregory Norbet, OSB

Music: Eston Priory, Gregory Norbet, OSB

Text and music © 1971, 1986, The Benedictine Foundation of the State of Vermont, Inc.

The Peace of the Earth / *La Paz de la Terra*

Text: Traditional Guatemalan; trans. by Christine Carson

Tune: Traditional Guatemalan; arr. by John Bell, v. 1949 © 1998 Christine Carson and Iona Community, GIA Publications, Inc., agent.

This is My Song

Text: Lloyd Stone; Georgia Harkness © 1964 Lorenz Publishing Co.

Tune: FINLANDIA 11 10 11 10 11 10; Jean Sibelius

World Peace Prayer

Text: Verses- Marty Haugen (b. 1950), Refrain: Upanishads, Satish Kumar © 1985, GIA. Inc.

Tune: Marty Haugen. © 1985 GIA Publications, Inc.

*This is my song, O God of all the nations
A song of peace for lands afar and mine.
This is my home, the country where my heart is,
Here are my hopes, my dreams, my holy shrine.
But other hearts in other lands are beating
With hopes and dreams as true and high as mine.*

*My country's skies are bluer than the ocean,
And sunlight beams on cloverleaf and pine,
But other lands have sunlight, too, and clover,
And skies are everywhere as blue as mine.
So hear my song, O God of all the nations,
A song of peace for their land and for mine*

*May truth and freedom come to every nation
May peace abound where strife has raged so long
That each may seek to love and build together
A world united, righting every wrong
A world united in its love for freedom
Proclaiming peace together in our song.*

*THIS IS MY SONG Text by Lloyd Stone and Georgia Harkness
with alternate third verse*

SUGGESTED READINGS

Cf. Lectionary numbers 887-891 (For Peace and Justice) OR 892-896 (For Reconciliation) OR 897-901 (In Time of War or Civil Disturbance)

OLD TESTAMENT READINGS (*outside the Easter Season*)

- Isaiah 9:1-6 His dominion is vast and forever peaceful.
- Isaiah 32:15-18 Justice will bring about peace.
- Isaiah 57:15-19 Peace, peace for all, both near and far.
- Isaiah 55:1-3, 6-9 Seek the Lord... my thoughts are not your thoughts, not are your ways my ways, says the LORD.
- Jeremiah 31:31-34 I will forgive their evil doing.
- Amos 5:4, 14-15, 21-24 Seek good that you may live.
- Micah 4:1-4 They shall not train for war again.
- Zechariah 9:9-10 The weapons of war will be banished.

READINGS FROM THE NEW TESTAMENT

- Philippians 4:6-9 The peace of God will guard your hearts and minds.
- Colossians 3:12-15 Let the peace of Christ control your hearts.
- James 3:13-18 The fruit of righteousness is sown in peace for those who cultivate peace.
- James 4:1-10 Where do the wars and where do the conflicts among you come from?
- Acts 3:13-15, 17-19 Repent, therefore, and be converted.
- 2 Corinth. 5:17-6:2 Be reconciled to God.
- 1 John 2:1-5a Jesus Christ is the expiation for our sins.
- Galatians 5:17-26 The works of the flesh ... the fruit of the Spirit
- Ephesians 4:30-5:2 All bitterness, fury, anger, shouting, and reviling must be removed from you, along with all malice

RESPONSORIAL PSALMS

- Psalm 72: 2, 3-4ab, 7-8, 11-12, 13-14 Justice shall flourish in his time, and fullness of peace forever.
- Psalm 85:9 and 10, 11-12, 13-14 The Lord speaks of peace to his people.
- Psalm 122: 1-2, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9 Give peace, O Lord, to those who wait for you. (Sirach 36:15)
- Psalm 51:3-4, 12-13, 14-15 Create a clean heart in me, O God.
- Psalm 130:1-2, 3, 4, 5-6ab, 6c-8 With the Lord there is mercy and fullness of redemption.

ALLELUIA VERSE AND VERSE BEFORE THE GOSPEL

Matthew 5:9 Blessed are the peacemakers; they shall be called the children of God
John 14:27 Peace I leave with you, says the Lord; my peace I give to you.
2 Cor. 1:3b-4a Blessed be the Father of compassion and God of all encouragement...

GOSPELS

Matthew 5:1-12a Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called the children of God.
Matthew 5:38-48 I say this to you, offer no resistance to one who is evil.
Matthew 5: 20-24 Whoever is angry with his brother will be liable to judgment.
Luke 3:7-18 What then should we do?
John 14:23-29 My peace I give to you.
John 20:19-23 Peace be with you.
John 15:9-12 This is my commandment: Love one another as I love you.



SAMPLE PRAYERS

THE ROSARY

Many of the Saints and the Blessed Mother herself have reminded us of the power of praying the Rosary for world peace. It is appropriate that in our communal and personal prayer, we invoke the intercession of the Blessed Mother. Indeed, the Bishops have recognized that, while not all devotions are appropriate during a period of adoration, the Rosary – especially emphasizing its Christological dimensions -- is appropriate for prayer before the Blessed Sacrament.

The Rosary, though clearly Marian in character, is at heart a Christocentric prayer. In the sobriety of its elements, it has all the depth of the Gospel message in its entirety, of which it can be said to be a compendium. It is an echo of the prayer of Mary, her perennial *Magnificat* for the work of the redemptive Incarnation which began in her virginal womb. With the Rosary, the Christian people sit at the school of Mary and [are] led to contemplate the beauty on the face of Christ and to experience the depths of his love. Through the Rosary the faithful receive abundant grace, as though from the very hands of the Mother of the Redeemer. (*Rosarium Virginis Mariae: On the Most Holy Rosary*, Apostolic Letter of Saint John Paul II, October 16, 2002).

Glorious Mysteries

(usually on Sundays and Wednesdays)

The Resurrection, The Ascension, The Descent of the Holy Spirit, The Assumption, the Crowning of Mary, Queen of Heaven

Joyful Mysteries

(usually on Mondays and Saturdays)

The Annunciation, The Visitation, The Nativity, The Presentation, The Finding in the Temple

Sorrowful Mysteries

(usually on Tuesdays and Fridays)

Agony in the Garden, Scourging at the Pillar, Crowning with Thorns, Carrying of the Cross, Crucifixion

Luminous Mysteries

(usually on Thursdays)

Baptism in the River Jordan, Wedding at Cana, Proclamation of the Kingdom, Transfiguration, Institution of the Eucharist.



COLLECT – SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER

This is one of the most powerful Collects in our Missal. Like many orations in the Easter season, it reminds the neophytes and all of us, of the grace and responsibilities of the Sacraments of Initiation.

God of everlasting mercy,
who in the very recurrence of the paschal feast
kindle the faith of your people you have made your own,
increase, we pray, the grace you have bestowed,
that all may grasp and rightfully understand
in what font they have been washed,
by whose Spirit they have been reborn,
by whose Blood they have been redeemed.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
God forever and ever. Amen.

A LITANY FOR PEACE

LEADER:

Lord, have mercy.
Christ have mercy.
Lord, have mercy.

Holy Mary, Mother of God
Saint Joseph
Saint Peter and Saint Paul
Saint Michael
Saint Joan of Arc
Saint Maximilian Kolbe
Saint. Stephen
Saint George
Saint Barbara
Saint Cornelius the Centurion
Saint Chrysogonus

For an end to the war in Ukraine
For an end to the war in Iran and the Middle East
For an end to conflicts in Myanmar and Venezuela
For peace in our streets
For an end to the arms race
For peace in our time

Jesus, Son of the living God.
Christ, hear us.
Christ, graciously hear us.

ALL:

Lord, have mercy.
Christ, have mercy
Lord, have mercy.

Pray for us.
Pray for us.
Pray for us.
Pray for us.
Pray for us.
Pray for us.
Pray for us.
Pray for us.
Pray for us.
Pray for us.
Pray for us

Lord, hear our prayer.
Lord, hear our prayer.
Lord, hear our prayer.
Lord, hear our prayer.
Lord, hear our prayer.
Lord, hear our prayer.

Lord, we ask you, hear our prayer.
Christ, hear us.
Christ, graciously hear us.

SAMPLE INTERCESSIONS

SAMPLE INVITATIONS TO PRAYER

Choose from among the following

Dear brothers and sisters,
filled with paschal joy,
let us pray more earnestly to God,
that he, who graciously listened to the prayers and supplications of his beloved Son,
may now be pleased to look upon us in our lowliness.

(Roman Missal, Examples of Formularies for the Universal Prayer #8. Easter Time)

Let us, in faith, call upon God the almighty Father
who raised Christ from the dead, as we pray for peace.

We should pray unceasingly at all times, brothers and sisters,
but especially in these days of world unrest.
May God see us in our distress and hear our prayers in his mercy.

SAMPLE PETITIONS

Choose from among the following

That all members of the Church may bear witness to the Resurrection and share the peace that only Christ can give, we pray.

That shepherds of the Church, especially our Holy Father and Bishops, may continue to speak with courage and t guide us with wisdom, we pray.

That all members of the Church, including our Neophytes, may be nourished by Word and Sacrament, to live a life worthy of our calling, we pray.

That, in this Easter season, we may heed the words of Christ who gives us his peace and strive to share that peace with others, we pray.

That all people of faith may engage in inter-religious dialogue to encourage charity and promote peace, we pray.

That world leaders will seek peace through diplomatic means and thoughtful dialogue, we pray.

That leaders of nations will seek the common good and not be driven by national pride, political interests, or commercial gain, we pray.

That nations may be united in their pursuit of peace and the sharing of resources for the common good, we pray.

That all who are in harm's ways, especially innocent children, may be spared from injury or death, we pray.

For all those whose homes and livelihoods have been destroyed by the weapons of war, that people of goodwill will help them to rebuild, we pray.

That all members of the military may be protected in battle and find mercy in captivity, we pray.

That swords will be beaten into plowshares so that war will end and prosperity will reign, we pray.

For peace in our time, we pray.

SAMPLE CONCLUDING PRAYERS

Choose from among the following

May the petitions of your Church be pleasing in your sight, O Lord,
so that we may receive from your mercy
what we cannot ask out of confidence in our own merits.
Through Christ our Lord. (The Roman Missal)

Hear the fervent prayers of your people, O God,
and answer them in your mercy.
Through Christ our Lord.

Heavenly Father,
Hear the prayers which your children place before you.
If it be your will, answer them.
Through Christ our Lord. Amen.