

Intentions

We remember and pray for all those who have died in war and conflict.

For those injured and still suffering from trauma.

For the families of returned service men and women.

For what else shall we pray ...

Opening Prayer

Loving God,

In the beginning, you created a world of peace and harmony;

In the times we have failed to live in harmony with each other,

humans have entered into war and conflict. Help us to resolve our differences in peaceful ways.

We ask this through Christ our Lord, who is the Prince of Peace. Amen.



We Listen

Pope Francis in Fratelli Tutti (Sisters and Brother all), n249.

Nowadays, it is easy to be tempted to turn the page, to say that all these things happened long ago and we should look to the future. For God's sake, no! We can never move forward without remembering the past; we do not progress without an honest and unclouded memory. We need to keep alive the flame of collective conscience, bearing witness to succeeding generations to the horror of what happened, because that witness awakens and preserves the memory of the victims, so that the conscience of humanity may rise up in the face of every desire for dominance and destruction...

I think not only of the need to remember the atrocities, but also all those who, amid such great inhumanity and corruption, retained their dignity and, with gestures small or large, chose the part of solidarity, forgiveness and fraternity. To remember goodness is also a healthy thing.



We Reflect

We pause for one minute of silent reflection to recall conflicts at home and aboard and for those affected by them.



Closing Prayer

Prayer of Pope St John Paul II at Hiroshima Peace Memorial Park, February 25, 1981

Leader: And to the Creator of nature and humanity, of truth and beauty we pray:

Reader 1: Hear my voice, for it is the voice of the victims of all wars and violence among individuals and nations;

Reader 2: Hear my voice, for it is the voice of all children who suffer and will suffer when people put their faith in weapons and war;

Reader 3: Hear my voice, when I beg you to instil into the hearts of all human beings the wisdom of peace, the strength of justice and the joy of fellowship;

Reader 4: Hear my voice, for I speak for the multitudes in every country and in every period of history who do not want war and are ready to walk the road of peace;

Reader 5: Hear my voice, and grant insight and strength so that we may always respond to hatred with love, to injustice with total dedication to justice, to need with the sharing of self, to war with peace.

All: O God, hear my voice and grant unto the world your everlasting peace. Amen.

Mary our Good Mother...*pray for us* St Marcellin Champagnat...*pray for us* St Mary of the Cross MacKillop...*pray for us* And let us always remember...*to pray for one another*



USTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL

Wild poppies, Mont Kemmel

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