

Prayers for Peace

Four prayers for peace of heart and peace in the world.

St. John of the Cross

O blessed Jesus, give me stillness of soul in You. Let Your mighty calmness reign in me. Rule me, O You, King of Gentleness, King of peace. Amen.

Pope Leo XIII

O Lord, You see how everywhere the winds have burst forth, and the sea is convulsed with the great violence of the rising waves. Command, we beseech You, You who alone are able, both the winds and the sea. Restore to mankind the true peace of Your Name, that peace which the world cannot give, and the calm of social harmony. Under Your favor and inspiration, may men return to due order; and having overthrown the rule of greed, bring back again, as ought to be, the love of God, justice, charity toward neighbor, temperance in all desires. May Your kingdom come. May all recognize that they are subject to You and must serve You who are truth and salvation, that without You they labor in vain. In Your law is reason and fatherly kindness. You are ever at hand

with Your strength and Your copious power to help man to keep it. Life upon earth is a warfare, but You watch the contest and aid man to conquer. The weak You sustain; the victor You crown. Amen.

Pope St. John XXIII

Lord Jesus Christ, who are called the Prince of Peace, who are Yourself our peace and reconciliation, who so often said, “Peace to you,” grant us peace. Make all men and women witnesses of truth, justice, and brotherly love. Banish from their hearts whatever might endanger peace. Enlighten our rulers that they may guarantee and defend the great gift of peace. May all the peoples of the earth become as brothers and sisters. May longed-for peace blossom forth and reign always over us all. Amen.

Pope St. John Paul II

O God, Creator of the universe, who extends Your paternal concern over every creature and guides the events of history to the goal of salvation, we acknowledge Your fatherly love when You break the resistance of mankind and, in a world torn by strife and discord, You make us ready for reconciliation. Renew for us the wonders of Your mercy: send forth Your Spirit that He may work in the intimacy of hearts, that enemies may begin to dialogue, that adversaries may shake hands, and peoples may encounter one another in harmony. May all commit themselves to the sincere search for true peace which will extinguish all arguments, for charity which overcomes hatred, for pardon which disarms revenge. Amen.