

OFFICE OF DIVINE WORSHIP

Announcement: August 24, 2016 For Immediate Release

DAY OF PRAYER FOR PEACE IN OUR COMMUNITIES: SEPTEMBER 9, 2016

Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God. (Mt. 5:9)

Archbishop Joseph Kurtz, President of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops [USCCB], has encouraged dioceses across the United States to mark a **Day of Prayer for Peace in Our Communities** on September 9 (feast of St. Peter Claver).

The following are suggestions for Mass/prayer options available for peace and reconciliation for parishes for September 9 and throughout the year, according to pastoral need.

Prayers from the Roman Missal

September 9, USCCB Day of Prayer for Peace in Our Communities: St. Peter Claver (Memorial, USA) Proper Collect; Common of Pastors: For One Pastor or from the Common of Holy Men and Women: For Those Who Practiced Works of Mercy.

On the weekdays in Ordinary Time, it is possible to choose either a weekday Mass, or the Mass of an optional memorial which happens to occur on that day, or the Mass of any Saint listed in the Martyrology for that day, or a Mass for Various Needs, or a Votive Mass. (General Instruction of the Roman Missal, 355c)

Masses for Various Needs and Occasions (Part I: For Holy Church)

15. For Promoting Harmony (includes two Collects, Prayer over the Offerings, Prayer after Communion)

Masses for Various Needs and Occasions (Part II: For Civil Needs)

- 21. For the Nation or State (Collect only)
- 22. For Those in Public Office (*Collect only*)
- 30. For the Preservation of Peace and Justice (includes four Collects, Prayer over the Offerings and Prayer after Communion)
- 31. In Time of War or Civil Disturbance (*includes two Collects, Prayer over the Offerings, Prayer after Communion*)

<u>Eucharistic Prayer for Reconciliation I and II</u> *The Eucharistic Prayers for Reconciliation are most appropriate for the Masses noted above.*

<u>Eucharistic Prayer for Use in Masses for Various Needs, III and IV</u> *The third and fourth Eucharistic Prayers are most appropriate for the Masses noted above.*

Sample Petitions for the Universal Prayer (Prayer of the Faithful)

For peace in our world, our nation, our hearts and our homes, we pray to the Lord...

For the grace to be peacemakers and to love others as you love them, we pray to the Lord...

That Christians and all people of goodwill will seek together an end to violence in our nation, we pray to the Lord...

For all people, that we may sincerely seek to live in peace according to the law of love, we pray to the Lord...

That anger and hatred may be banished from our hearts, we pray to the Lord...

For civility in our religious and political discourse, we pray to the Lord...

That enemies may seek the ways of peace together, and that opposing viewpoints may be resolved in freedom and peace, we pray to the Lord...

For the safety of our citizens and all who are called to protect and serve them, we pray to the Lord...

That violence in our streets may cease, and for the safety of police officers and all who seek to keep us safe, we pray to the Lord...

For all who are persecuted for their faith in Jesus Christ and for all who live in fear of terror or violence, we pray to the Lord...

That violence against Christians throughout the world will cease, we pray to the Lord...

For the grace to love and respect all people, especially for those who are most difficult for us to love, we pray to the Lord...

That we may love all people, especially those who are difficult for us to love, we pray to the Lord...

With questions, please contact:

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Special thanks to the USCCB, Diocese of Madison, and the Federation of Diocesan Liturgical Commissions.