

# The Rosary of Peace

# **Opening Prayer**

God, our good Father, we believe that you are good, that you are the Father of all people. We believe that you sent your Son Jesus Christ into the world to destroy evil and sin and to restore peace among people, for all people are your children and brothers and sisters of Jesus. Grant us and all those who invoke you for peace to pray with a pure heart, so that our prayers may be heard and we may have true peace of heart and soul: peace in our families, in our Church, and throughout the world.

Good Father, remove from us all forms of disorder and turmoil; grant us the joyful fruits of peace and reconciliation with you and among ourselves. We ask this through Mary, Mother of your Son and Queen of Peace. Amen.

## First Mystery: Jesus offers peace to our hearts.

« Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. Not as the world gives do I give it to you. Do not let your hearts be troubled or afraid. » (Jn 14:27)

Jesus, give peace to our hearts! Open our hearts to your peace. We are disappointed by false hopes, destroyed by so much bitterness. We have no peace. We easily allow ourselves to be overwhelmed by anxious worries. We are easily overcome by fear and mistrust. Too many times we have believed that we could find peace in the things of this world... but our hearts continue to be restless. With St. Augustine, we ask you to calm our hearts and let them rest in you.

#### Second Mystery: Jesus offers peace to our families.

« Whatever town or village you enter, look for a worthy person in it, and stay there until you leave. As you enter a house, wish it peace. If the house is worthy, let your peace come upon it. » (Mt 10:11-13)

Jesus, thank you for thinking of our families too. Thank you for sending the apostles to spread your peace in families. We pray with all our hearts that you make our families worthy of your peace. Purify us from every trace of sin, so that your peace may grow and flourish in us. May your peace remove all anxiety and strife from our families. We also pray for the families who live near us. May they too be filled with your peace, so that there may be joy in all.

## Third Mystery: Jesus offers his peace to the Church and calls us to spread it.

« Whoever is in Christ is a new creation: the old things have passed away; behold, new things have come. And all this is from God, who has reconciled us to himself through Christ and given us the ministry of reconciliation, We implore you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. » (2Cor 5:17-18-20)

Jesus, we pray with all our hearts: grant peace to your Church. Calm everything in it that may disturb the soul. Bless the priests, the bishops, the Pope, that they may live in peace and carry out the ministry of reconciliation. Bring peace to all those who are in disagreement in your Church and who, because of mutual conflicts, scandalize your little ones. Reconcile the various religious communities. May your Church, without spot or wrinkle, be constantly at peace and continue to promote peace tirelessly.

# Fourth Mystery: Jesus offers peace to his people

« As he drew near, he saw the city and wept over it, saying, "If this day you only knew what makes for peace - but now it is hidden from your eyes. For the days are coming upon you when your enemies will raise a palisade against you; they will encircle you and hem you in on all sides. They will smash you to the ground and your children within you, and they will not leave one stone upon another within you because you did not recognize the time of your visitation. » (Lk 19:41-44).

Jesus, you wept over your city and your people. You offered them peace, but they were deaf and blind, and they neither heard nor saw you. Thank you for the love you have for your people. Grant that we too may desire the good of our people, our country, and our homeland. We pray for all those who have positions of responsibility. Do not allow them to be blind, but may they know how to identify and understand what they must do to bring about peace.

Jesus, grant peace to our people and to all peoples. May everyone live in peace, may everyone become a peacemaker.

## Fifth Mystery: Jesus offers peace to the whole world.

« How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of him who brings glad tidings, Announcing peace, bearing good news, announcing salvation, and saying to Zion, "Your God is King! » (Is 52:7).

Jesus, we pray that the whole world may be open to your peace. All men and women, especially the poorest and weakest, need you; therefore, help them to find peace, to become peacemakers themselves. Many peoples have lost their identity. Many live in fear of others who are more powerful and richer. Many poor and persecuted people cry out and weep in search of a future and hope.

Grant, O Lord Jesus, that war may never again prevail over plans for peace, solidarity, and collaboration, and that all people may live and develop according to your plans.

Hail Holy Queen...

Prayer to Mary, Queen of Peace

Mary, Queen of Peace, pray for us!

To you, first fruit of humanity redeemed by Christ,

finally freed from the slavery of evil and sin,

we raise together a heartfelt and confident plea:

Hear the cry of pain of the victims

of wars and so many forms of violence,

which bloody the Earth.

Dispel the darkness of sadness and loneliness,

of hatred and revenge.

Open the minds and hearts of all to trust and forgiveness!

Queen of Peace, pray for us!

Mother of mercy and hope,

obtain for the men and women of the third millennium

the precious gift of peace:

peace in hearts and families, in communities and among peoples;

peace above all for those nations

where fighting and dying continue every day.

Grant that every human being, of every race and culture,

may encounter and welcome Jesus,

who came to earth in the mystery of Christmas

to give us "his" peace.

Mary, Queen of Peace, give us Christ, the true peace of the world!

(John Paul II, December 8, 2003)