

# PRAYERS FOR UKRAINE

## A PRAYER FOR PEACE BY POPE FRANCIS

Lord God of peace, hear our prayer!  
We have tried so many times and over so many years  
to resolve our conflicts by our own powers and by the force of our arms.  
How many moments of hostility and darkness have we experienced?  
how much blood has been shed?  
how many lives have been shattered?  
how many hopes have been buried?  
But our efforts have been in vain.

Now, Lord, come to our aid!  
Grant us peace, teach us peace;  
guide our steps in the way of peace.  
Open our eyes and our hearts,  
and give us the courage to say: "Never again war!"; "With war everything is lost".  
Instill in our hearts the courage to take concrete steps to achieve peace.

Lord, God of Abraham, God of the Prophets, God of Love,  
you created us and you call us to live as brothers and sisters.  
Give us the strength daily to be instruments of peace;  
enable us to see everyone who crosses our path as our brother or sister.  
Make us sensitive to the plea of our citizens  
who entreat us to turn our weapons of war into implements of peace,  
our trepidation into confident trust,  
and our quarreling into forgiveness.  
Keep alive within us the flame of hope,  
so that with patience and perseverance  
we may opt for dialogue and reconciliation.  
In this way may peace triumph at last,  
and may the words "division," "hatred," and "war"  
be banished from the heart of every man and woman.

Lord, defuse the violence of our tongues and our hands.  
Renew our hearts and minds,  
so that the word which always brings us together will be "brother,"  
and our way of life will always be that of: Shalom, Peace, Salaam!  
Amen.



### SAMPLE INTERCESSIONS

- For all those effected by the fighting in Ukraine:  
for those who have lost lives, loved ones and homes, we pray.
- For the dignity of every person and the sovereignty of every nation,  
for they are the work of your creation we pray.
- For leaders of nations, that they may seek diplomatic solutions to conflict and war, we pray.
- For the Church in Ukraine, that the People of God may be free to worship in peace, we pray.
- For our allies and our enemies, that God may guide them to the way of peace, we pray.
- For the courage to demand an end to war and for the grace to work toward it, we pray.

### A PRAYER FOR THE PEOPLE OF UKRAINE

Heavenly Father,  
From age to age, you have never failed come to the aid of your people.  
Bless and protect the people of Ukraine.

For those who have fled from their homes,  
give them comfort and shelter.  
For those who have stayed to fight,  
give them courage in battle.  
For those who have lost homes and livelihoods from missile attacks,  
give them aid and the strength to rebuild.  
For those who worship in the streets and in underground shelters,  
hear their prayers and calm their fears.  
For those who have died,  
welcome them to the warmth of your embrace.

Make your presence known  
in all the leaders that strive to protect them,  
in all the neighbors who welcome them,  
in all the clergy who serve them,  
and in all people of good will who are praying for their safety.

For victory over evil, we pray --Lord, have mercy.  
For courage over fear, we pray – Christ, have mercy.  
For everlasting peace, we pray – Lord, have mercy.

Our Lady of the Ukraine, pray for us.  
Our Lady of Kyiv, pray for us.  
Our Lady of Pochiv, prayer for us.

- Rita Thiron, FDLC

<https://fdlc.org/2022/02/peace/>

