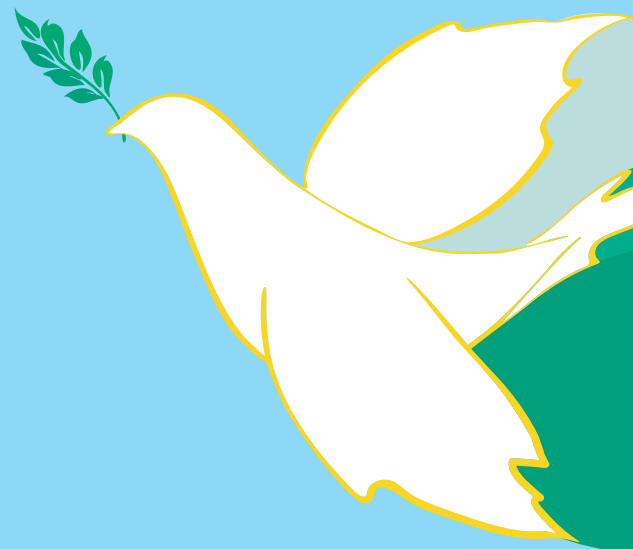




*In gratitude for your support and the role you play
in helping our elderly and infirm Religious
live out their lives in modest dignity.*



Designed for SOAR! by
Sister Anne Vaccares, RSM & Sister Patricia Sullivan, RSM



*Let there be
Peace!*

*A Selection of Prayers for Peace from
Support Our Aging Religious*

Peace Prayers

Let there be peace...

Prayer of Saint Francis

Peace...on Earth...

Peace Be to You

Prayer to the Great Spirit

Peace...among nations...

Prayer for Reconciliation

Prayer for Those in Military Service

Prayer for Peace

Peace...among different religious traditions...

A Jewish Litany

Peace Prayer

Peace...in our hearts.

Deep Peace

Universal Peace Prayer

A Blessing



Dear Friends of SOAR!

Through the scriptures, God speaks to us of the longing for peace within and among nations: “They shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more” (Isaiah 2:4). In the New Testament, Jesus blesses peacemakers: they shall be called children of God (Matthew 5:9)

The examination of the moral criteria for a “just war” is far beyond the scope of this mini-volume of prayers. But as persons of faith, we pray unceasingly for just and authentic peace throughout the world.

Let there be peace on earth and let it begin with praying together. May the Spirit of God rest upon all peoples around the world.

Sincerely,
SOAR! Board of Directors and Staff

Let there be peace...

Prayer of Saint Francis

Lord, make an instrument of your peace:
Where there is hatred, let me sow love;
Where there is injury, pardon;
Where there is doubt, faith;
Where there is despair, hope;
Where there is darkness, light;
And where there is sadness, joy.

O Divine Master, grant that I may
not so much seek
to be consoled as to console,
to be understood as to understand,
to be loved as to love.

For it is in giving that we receive,
It is in pardoning that we are pardoned,
and it is in dying that we are
born to eternal life.

Peace...on Earth...

Peace Be to You

Lord Jesus Christ, you are called the
Prince of Peace, who are yourself our
peace and reconciliation, who often said,
“Peace be 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 peoples on the earth
become as brothers and sisters. May
longed-for peace blossom forth and reign
always over us all.



– Pope John XXIII

Prayer to the Great Spirit,

Great Spirit give us hearts to understand,
never to take from creation's beauty
more than we give,
never to destroy want only
 for the furtherance of greed,
never to deny to give our hands
 for the building of Earth's beauty,
never to take from her
what we cannot use.

– U.N. Environmental Sabbath Program

May it be beautiful before me.
May it be beautiful behind me.
May it be beautiful below me.
May it be beautiful all around me.
In beauty it is finished.
In beauty it is finished.

– Navajo Chant

Peace...among nations...

Prayer for Reconciliation

God of Perfect Peace,
Violence and cruelty can have no part
with you.
May those who are at peace
with one another
Hold fast to the good will
that unites them;
May those who are enemies
forget their hatred and be healed.

We ask this through our Lord Jesus
Christ, your Son, who lives and
reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, forever and ever. Amen

– from the *Sacramentary*



Prayer for Those in Military Service

Merciful Lord, I humbly pray for Your Almighty protection for me and for all those in service to our country.

Help and strengthen us all in the righteous struggle for the preservation of liberty and justice for all.

Make us ever mindful of our duty to our country and fill us with courage and loyalty. Amen.

*Violence never again!
War never again!
Terrorism never again!
In the name of God,
may every religion bring
upon the earth
justice and peace,
forgiveness and life, love!*

– Pope John Paul II

Prayer for Peace

Lord God, we come to You in our need. Create in us an awareness of the massive forces that threaten our world today.

And grant us a sense of urgency to activate the forces of goodness, of justice, of love and peace.

Where there is armed conflict, let us stretch our arms to our brothers and sisters.

Where there is abundance, let there be simple lifestyle and sharing.

Where there is poverty, let there be dignified living and constant striving for just structures.

Where there are wounds of division, let there be unity and wholeness.

Help us to be committed to the building of Your kingdom ...

– Peace Advocates Zamboanga (Philippines)

*Peace...among different
religious traditions...*

A Jewish Litany

Eternal God, the Guide of humanity, You have called us to peace, for You are Peace itself. May we have the vision to see that each of us, in some measure, can help to realize these aims:

- Where there are ignorance and superstition,
Let there be enlightenment and knowledge.
- Where there are prejudice and hatred,
Let there be acceptance and love.
- Where there are fear and suspicion,
Let there be confidence and trust.
- Where there are tyranny and oppression,
Let there be freedom and justice.
- Where there are poverty and disease,
Let there be prosperity and health.
- Where there are strife and discord,
Let there be harmony and peace.

– Shaarei P’fillah

Peace Prayer

Send Thy peace, O Lord,
which is perfect and everlasting,
that our souls may radiate peace.

Send Thy peace, O Lord, that we may think
and speak harmoniously.

Send Thy peace, O Lord, that we may be
contented and thankful
for Thy bountiful gifts.

Send Thy peace, O Lord,
that amidst our worldly strife,
we may enjoy Thy bliss.

Send Thy peace, O Lord,
that we may endure all,
tolerate all, in the thought of
Thy grace and mercy.

Send Thy peace O Lord, that our lives
may become a Divine vision and in
Thy light, all darkness may vanish.

Send Thy peace, O Lord,
our Father and Mother,
that we Thy children on earth
may unite in one family.



– Pir-O-Mushid Inayat Khan, 1921

Peace...in Our Hearts...



Deep Peace

Deep peace of the running wave to you.
Deep peace of the flowing air to you.

Deep peace of the quiet earth to you.
Deep peace of the shining stars to you.

Deep peace of the gentle night to you.
Moon and stars pour their beaming light
on you.

Deep peace of Christ, the light of the
world, to you.

– Old Gaelic Rune

Universal Peace Prayer

Lead me from death to life,
from falsehood to truth.
Lead me from despair to hope,
from fear to trust.
Lead me from hate to love,
from war to peace.
Let peace fill my heart,
my world, my universe.

*Do not look forward to what might
happen tomorrow. The same
everlasting Father, who cares for us
today, will take care of you tomorrow
and everyday. Either He will shield
you from suffering or He will give you
unfailing strength to bear it. Be at
peace then and put aside all anxious
thoughts and imaginations.*

– St. Francis de Sales

A Blessing

May God always bless you
and keep you.

May God's face always
shine upon you.

May you know God's compassion
and mercy.

May God walk
beside you forever.

May God look upon you
with kindness.

May God fill your heart
with peace.

May God's love be forever
within you.

May God always bless you
and keep you.

– *Numbers 6:24-26*

SOAR! is a nonprofit organization established in 1986 to help meet the critical needs of elderly and infirm members of Catholic religious communities in the United States.

To date, SOAR! has distributed almost 700 grants, totaling more than \$7 million to congregations in 43 states and Puerto Rico. Typical grants help with such basic assistance as building renovations to allow for handicapped accessibility, call and fire alarm systems.

Many generous donors have helped to ensure more safe and peaceful environments for religious in their last years of earthly life. In their final ministry of prayer they lift their hearts to God in thanksgiving for the generosity of donors.

Support Our Aging Religious

900 Varnum Street, NE | Washington, DC 20017

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