Prayers for Peace

To be held in the churches of Jerusalem – August 15th to 28th 2001

"I know the thoughts that I think towards you, says the Lord, thoughts of peace, and ot of eveil, to give you an hopeful end." Jeremiah 29 : 11.

R We praise and glorify you, Lord.

P.	Heavenly Father, we praise and glorify you. You are our only refuge in a troubled world.
R.	We praise and glorify you, Lord.
P.	We thank you for the birth of your son, Jesus Christ, in Bethlehem; his refuge in Egypt and his childhood in Nazareth and his ministry in this Land
R.	Father, we thank you.
P.	We thank you for his death on the Cross here in Jerusalem, where he carried our sin and suffering and for his glorious Resurrection in which he gave us new life with him.
R.	Father, we thank you.
P.	So Lord we come before you with all our troubles and pains.
R.	Lord have mercy on us.
P.	We pray for all victims of bloodshed and violence as well as for the perpetrators of these evils.
R.	Lord have mercy on us.
P.	We pray for the children and young people that you may give them hope for the future.
R.	Lord have mercy on us.
P.	We pray for all bereaved families; the unemployed and all who seek to help them.
R.	Lord have mercy on us.
P.	We ask the guidance of your Holy Spirit for all the leaders of this land; especially President Arafat and Prime Minister Sharon, that they may be inspired to work for your peace with your justice.
R.	Lord have mercy on us.
	So we pray together " Gracious Father, your love knows no limits. Fill our hearts with your compassion; open our eyes to your presence in the world; enlarge our minds to understand your will. Take our hands and minister through them. Speak through our words and direct our feet in the path of peace, that Christ may be revealed in us and the world may believe. Amen.
	The LORD'S PRAYER.
	Concluding with the following prayer, said or sung : Lord make me 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. (St Francis of Assisi.)

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