LITANY FOR PEACE IN GAZA AND ISRAEL

Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Christ, hear us. Christ, graciously hear us.

God, the Father of heaven, **have mercy on us**. God the Son, Redeemer of the world and Prince of Peace, **have mercy on us**. God, the Holy Spirit, **have mercy on us**. Holy Trinity, one God, **have mercy on us**.

In these days of trouble, fear and sorrow, have mercy on us. In our despair at the violence that fills the world, have mercy on us. In the pain of lost life and shattered hopes, have mercy on us. In our grieving for those who have died, have mercy on us. In our compassion for all who are bereaved, have mercy on us.

From the history of violence that corrupts minds and hearts, **O Lord, deliver us.** From the urge for revenge that adds to the cycle of violence, **O Lord, deliver us.** From the fear that grows into hatred for people who are different, **O Lord, deliver us.** From being too quick to attribute blame and demand retribution, **O Lord, deliver us.** From believing ourselves safe through anything other than your grace, **O Lord, deliver us.**

For those who plan and carry out acts of violence, **Lord, hear our prayer**. For the victims of war and terrorism everywhere on earth, **Lord, hear our prayer**. For all who live in fear, and for refugees, **Lord, hear our prayer**. For courage to resist demonising and dehumanising others, **Lord, hear our prayer**. For wisdom in choosing the paths of peace, **Lord, hear our prayer**. For solidarity with the suffering of the dispossessed, **Lord, hear our prayer**. For generosity in sharing fairly the world's resources, **Lord, hear our prayer**. For grace to change and be changed as you forgive us, **Lord, hear our prayer**. For rescue workers and medical teams treating those injured in Gaza and Israel, Lord, hear our prayer. For aid agencies and their workers, responding with practical care in dangerous places, Lord, hear our prayer. For the leaders of all the nations looking for ways to work together beyond fear and suspicion, Lord, hear our prayer. For people of goodwill, responding generously to the needs of suffering communities, Lord, hear our prayer. For all who have friends and family in Gaza and Israel, Lord, hear our prayer. For communities terrified by missiles, snipers, vigilantes or death squads, Lord, hear our prayer. For the vulnerable and defenceless in Gaza and Israel, the children, the elderly, the disabled, the sick: Lord, hear our prayer. For the success of the channels of international diplomacy, Lord, hear our prayer. For the safety and return of hostages, Lord, hear our prayer. For the opening of humanitarian corridors, Lord, hear our prayer.

For Christ to bring all the peoples of the world into one flock with one shepherd, **we pray to you, O God.** For Christ to bring healing and comfort for those we love who are sick or in mourning, **we pray to you, O God**. For Christ to lead us into the paths of peace, writing the law of love on our hearts, **we pray to you, O God**. For Christ to bring us, with all who have died in faith, to a joyful resurrection, **we pray to you, O God**.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world; spare us, O Lord! Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world; graciously hear us, O Lord! Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world; have mercy on us.

Let us pray.

God of all peace, have mercy on our broken and divided world, and on your people who cry out to you for healing, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.