

## Prayer for Peace in the World

Immaculate Heart of Mary,  
help us to conquer the menace of evil,  
which so easily takes root in the hearts of the people of today,  
and whose immeasurable effects already weigh down upon our modern world and seem  
to block the paths toward the future.  
From famine and war, deliver us.  
From nuclear war, from incalculable self-destruction, from every kind of war, deliver us.  
From sins against human life from its very beginning, deliver us.  
From hatred and from the demeaning of the dignity of the children of God, deliver us.  
From every kind of injustice in the life of society, both national and international, deliver us.  
From readiness to trample on the commandments of God, deliver us.  
From attempts to stifle in human hearts the very truth of God, deliver us.  
From the loss of awareness of good and evil, deliver us.  
From sins against the Holy Spirit, deliver us.  
Accept, O Mother of Christ, this cry laden with the sufferings of all individual human beings,  
laden with the sufferings of whole societies.  
Help us with the power of the Holy Spirit conquer all sin:  
individual sin and the 'sin of the world',  
sin in all its manifestations.  
Let there be revealed once more in the history of the world  
the infinite saving power of the redemption: the power of merciful love.  
May it put a stop to evil.  
May it transform consciences.  
May your Immaculate Heart reveal for all the light of hope. **Amen.**

– *St John Paul II*

## Pope Francis' Prayer for Peace

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'. Instil 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 quarrelling 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, diffuse 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.**