

PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL

This resource includes Prayers of the Faithful readings that align with the [Caritas Social Justice Calendar](#), and can be used during Mass or liturgies on specific days throughout the year.

Topic	Social Justice Days	Prayer
Peace	- World Day of Peace - <i>January</i> - International Cooperatives Day - <i>July</i> - International Day of Peace - <i>September</i> - International Day of Non-Violence - <i>October</i> - World Science Day for Peace and Development - <i>November</i>	Loving God, you are the source of all things good. We pray for peace in the midst of violence and tragedy in this world. May we have the patience to be understanding, the strength to be forgiving and the grace to admit when we are wrong. We pray to the Lord. Loving God, you sent your only Son to show us how to live a life of love and compassion. We pray that we can bring about your kingdom by building a world where all humanity can experience peace and security. We pray to the Lord.
Interfaith/ Harmony	- World Interfaith Harmony Week - <i>January</i> - Harmony Day Australia - <i>March</i> - International Day for Tolerance - <i>November</i>	Loving God, you created humanity in your image and likeness. We pray that we may open our eyes to see your face in our brothers and sisters of different cultures, races and religions. May we focus on what binds us as a people rather than what separates us. We pray to the Lord. Loving God, just as you chose your apostles from all walks of life, we pray that we may follow your example and embrace the unique qualities that each of us possess, so that we may bring about harmony on this earth. We pray to the Lord.
Environment	- World Wetlands Day - <i>January</i> - Clean Up Australia Day - <i>March</i> - International Water Day - <i>March</i> - Earth Hour - <i>March</i> - International Mother Earth Day - <i>April</i>	Loving God, we see the beauty of your creation. We pray that you grant us the grace to recognise the sacredness of the earth around us, that we may grow deeper in our respect and care for our common home. We pray to the Lord.

	• International Day of Biological Diversity - May • World Environment Day - June • World Day to Combat Desertification and Drought - June • National Tree Day - July • World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation - September • International Day for the Preservation of the Ozone Layer - September • World Habitat Day - October • National Recycling Week - November	Loving God, we pray for our world leaders. That they may heed upon the urgency of climate change, and work towards creating a brighter and more sustainable world for future generations. We pray to the Lord. Loving God, we pray for our Church. That she continues to be a voice for your glorious creation, encouraging the world to take urgent action to protect and restore our common home. We pray to the Lord. Loving God, we thank you for the earth that is ever providing and nurturing. Grant us the strength to always act as stewards, keeping the preservation of your creation at the forefront of our minds as we go about each day. We pray to the Lord.
Human Trafficking	• World Day of Prayer, Reflection and Action Against Human Trafficking - February • World Day Against Trafficking in Persons - July	Loving God, we seek your protection for those that have been exploited and enslaved. We pray that they may be released from their chains and be empowered to restore their dignity and re-build their lives. We pray to the Lord. Loving God, help us to reach out to victims of slavery, human trafficking and forced labour. May we act as a pillar of hope and support, helping them to re-build their lives in the face of tragedy. We pray to the Lord.
Indigenous Australians	• Australia Day/Survival Day - January • Apology Anniversary Australia - February • National Sorry Day - May • National Reconciliation Week – May/June • NAIDOC Week - July • International Day of the World's Indigenous Peoples - August	Loving God, we pray for Indigenous peoples, the traditional custodians of this land, and thank them for caring for your precious creation. May we learn from their wisdom, working towards a sustainable future where the land is nurtured, respected and shared by all. We pray to the Lord.

		Loving God, help us to honour and respect the traditions of our Indigenous brothers and sisters. May we listen compassionately to their hurt and pain so that we may achieve peace, justice and reconciliation amongst all of your children. We pray to the Lord.
Social Justice	• World Day of Social Justice - <i>February</i> • International Day of Charity - <i>September</i> • Social Justice Sunday - <i>August</i>	Loving God, guide our hearts to stand up against the injustices of the world. Give us the courage to build your kingdom, following in Christ's footsteps to be the voice of the voiceless, acting when there is a need. We pray to the Lord. Loving God, ignite the fire within us to reach out to those on the fringes of our society. We pray that we may be fruitful seeds of your kingdom, in the face of adversity and injustice. We pray to the Lord.
Women	• International Women's Day - <i>March</i> • International Day of the Girl Child - <i>October</i> • International Day of Rural Women - <i>October</i> • International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women - <i>November</i>	Loving God, strengthen us to stand in solidarity with women experiencing injustices around the world. We pray that we may have the courage to hope and work for a better future where all women experience equality and justice. We pray to the Lord.
Health	• World Health Day - <i>April</i> • World Toilet Day - <i>November</i> • World AIDS Day - <i>December</i> • International Day of Persons with Disabilities - <i>December</i>	Loving God, we pray for our brothers and sisters around the world who do not have access to quality healthcare. May we respond to the challenge of our faith and help to be the voice of the marginalised and excluded in society. We pray to the Lord.
Refugees/ Asylum Seekers	• National Refugee Week - <i>June</i> • World Refugee Day - <i>June</i> • World Day of Migrants and Refugees - <i>September</i>	Loving God, we are made in your image. Help us see the face of Christ in our brothers and sisters that seek refuge and asylum in our common home. May we open our borders and our hearts to those seeking shelter and security. We pray to the Lord.

		Loving God, we pray for the Australian Government. That they may truly hear and act upon the words of our national anthem and welcome those who have come from across the seas, to find security and shelter in our boundless plains that we share. We pray to the Lord. Loving God, we pray for our brothers and sisters who are detained at our borders, and all migrants around the world. That they are welcomed and treated with dignity as they find a new home where they can flourish and build your kingdom. We pray to the Lord.
Children/ Youth	• International Youth Day - August • Universal Children's Day - November	Loving God, we pray for the children/youth of the world. That they may grow to be just leaders, inspired by your Son Jesus to bring about your kingdom on earth. We pray to the Lord.
Education	• International Literacy Day - September • World Teachers' Day - October	Loving God, we pray for teachers. That you may bless and guide them as they work towards enriching the lives of others through the gift of education. We pray to the Lord. Loving God, we thank you for the gift of learning. We pray for children who cannot attend school due to conflict, natural disasters and emergencies. May we always appreciate the gift of education as a means of building a better future for all. We pray to the Lord.
Poverty	• Anti-Poverty Week - October • World Food Day - October • International Day for the Eradication of Poverty - October • World Day of the Poor – November	Loving God, we pray that governments, society and those living in poverty can work together on programs that can address the root causes of poverty, promote systemic change and eliminate inequalities so as to achieve a just and productive society for all. We pray to the Lord.

Human Rights	• Human Rights Day - <i>December</i>	Loving God, we pray that we have the courage to work for the rights of each human person. May we work together to build a just world that will respect the God-given rights of all. We pray to the Lord. Loving God, you made us in your likeness and image. Help us to recognise the inherent dignity of all members of your human family. We pray to the Lord.
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