

Leader: For children dispossessed of childhood
and transformed into soldiers

Left side: Your kingdom come

Right side: Your will be done

Leader: For orphans wandering lonely roads
to uncertain futures

Left side: Your kingdom come

Right side: Your will be done

Leader: For each persecuted family
carrying your Cross

Left side: Your kingdom come

Right side: Your will be done

Closing Prayer

All: We bring to you the suicide bomber
strapping explosives to her chest
and the reasoning behind an act that seems
almost inhuman.

We bring to you the politician who rejects
the rule of law for one of terror
who clings to power
through the cruel persuasion of torture.

We bring to you influential people
with the opportunity to make a difference
and who fail because of complicity or weakness.

Have mercy on us all.

Bring peace and justice to our suffering world. Amen.

Closing Song

This prayer is adapted from prayers at:

[http://www.faithandworship.com/
prayers_peace.htm#ixzz3rr2PHTmU](http://www.faithandworship.com/prayers_peace.htm#ixzz3rr2PHTmU)

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PRAYER FOR AN END TO
TERRORISM AND VIOLENCE
IN OUR WORLD

Holy Cross Chapel

Bell Tower Residence

 Holy
Cross
Sisters
U S A P R O V I N C E

FRIDAY

9:00 AM

Opening Song

Call to Worship

Leader: Draw near to God and God will draw near to you.

All: Come, let us worship the Lord;
for he is our God and we are his people.

Reading: The following is from the general audience of Pope Francis on November 18. (Translation by Zenit)

We have arrived at the threshold of the Jubilee [Year of Mercy], it is close. Before us is the door, but not only the Holy Door, the other – the great door of God’s Mercy, and it is a beautiful door! – which receives our repentance, offering the grace of His forgiveness. The door is generously open; a bit of courage is needed on our part to cross the threshold. Each one of us has within himself things that burden him. All of us. We are all sinners! Let us take advantage of this moment that is coming and cross the threshold of this mercy of God, who never tires of forgiving, never tires of waiting for us! He looks at us, He is always beside us. Courage! Let us go in through this door!...

There are places in the world where the doors are not locked, they still exist; but there are so many where armor-plated doors have become normal. We must not yield to the idea of having to apply this system to our whole life, to the life of the family, of the city, of the society, and even less so to the life of the Church. It would be terrible! An inhospitable Church, just as a family shut-in on itself, mortifies the Gospel and hardens the world. No armor-plated doors in the Church, none! Everything open!...

The symbolic management of the “doors” – of the thresholds, of the passages, of the borders – has become crucial. A door must protect, certainly, but not push away. The door must not be forced, on the contrary, permission must be asked, because hospitality shines in the freedom of a welcome, and it is darkened in the arrogance of invasion.

A door is often opened to see if someone is outside who is waiting, and perhaps does not have the courage -- perhaps not even the courage -- to knock. How many people have lost confidence, do not have the courage to knock on the door of our Christian heart, on the doors of our churches ... And they are there, they do not have the courage, we have taken away their confidence: please, let this not happen anymore.

Response

Left side: We pray for all whose lives
have been touched by tragedy,
whether by accident
or a deliberate act.

Right side: For those who mourn,
immerse them in your love
and lead them through this darkness
into your arms, and light.

Left side: For those who comfort,
be in both the words they use
and all that's left unspoken;
fill each heart with love.

Right side: We ask this through Jesus Christ,
whose own suffering brought us life,
here and for eternity. Amen

Time for silent prayer and reflection

Leader: For all whose image of your creation
is marred by pain and suffering

Left side: **Your kingdom come**

Right side: **Your will be done**

Leader: For those who wake each morning
to shellfire and destruction

Left side: **Your kingdom come**

Right side: **Your will be done**