

Prayers from Taize



Week of Prayer for Christian Unity

Be praised, Christ Jesus, for all the peoples whom you gather in one communion, the Church, which is your Body. It fortifies our hope that you are renewing the face of the earth. At this time of great upheavals, when conflicts and the menace of violence are rife, kindle in us a passion for communion so that your work of peace may shine out across the world.

September 1st - World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation

God of love, as we remain in your presence you allow us to glimpse the beauty of what you have created, of all that comes from you, and of your inexhaustible compassion. You strengthen our consideration of others and of all creation. Help us discover the value of all things and make of us bearers of your peace to the whole human family.

Christmas

God of goodness, at Christmas we remember that you sent Jesus into the world to bear witness to your infinite mercy. The violence of the world was unleashed against him, but it could not overcome your love. Stay close, today, to the countless victims of human violence; may faces expressing compassion be for them reflections of your presence. Show us how we can contribute without delay, both near at hand and far away, to the shining forth of your peace amidst humanity and in the whole creation.

January 6th - Orthodox Christmas

Eternal God, you are beyond everything that we can imagine and yet you came on the earth as a child. Allow us to see in the poor and vulnerable a reflection of your love. We pray to you for the Christians of Churches which celebrate Christmas today.

Ash Wednesday

God, you love every person. In receiving the ashes, we acknowledge how fragile our existence is. May our path towards Easter deepen our trust that our lives are in your hands and that you are nothing but forgiveness and love. During the next song we shall make the sign of the cross in the palm of the hand of those sitting around us. Accept this sign, living God, which expresses our desire to live in your forgiveness day by day, so that your peace may shine out in our midst.

Palm Sunday

Christ Jesus, you came to save us from evil and death, and great is our joy today when we see with what simplicity you entered Jerusalem to finish your mission. You became one of us, sharing our suffering and becoming close to those who experience violence in so many places in the world. We put our trust in you.

Maundy Thursday

Christ Jesus, you washed the feet of your disciples for us to know that we are loved by God, and so that we might love one another. By your Eucharist you gather us into one body. Together with you nothing can separate us from God's love.

Good Friday

Jesus, our peace, on the cross you stretched out your arms to the universe. On Easter morning you rose from the dead to gather all human beings together in God. You do away with all separation. By giving your life for love you became the wellspring of a new creation. Even though invisible, by the Holy Spirit you are close to each one of us. Like you, we want to choose to love.

Easter

Christ Jesus, in your life hatred and death did not have the last word. You are risen. Even though invisible to our eyes, you are present for every human being. Your Holy Spirit brings to birth in us the courage of mercy for those who are nearby as well as for those who are far away. In a world where we are often disconcerted by violence, you enable us to hope against all hope.

Orthodox Easter

Christ Jesus, you call us to take the risk of trusting and to believe without having seen. Praised be you for the Orthodox Christians who celebrate Easter today. To be able to believe in you we are not alone: you give us the wide communion of your Church.

Christ Jesus, as Thomas the Apostle did, we at times can doubt in your resurrection. You call us then to take the risk of trusting, to believe without seeing. Praised be you for the communion of all believers, and for the Orthodox Christians who celebrate Easter today. For us to believe in you, you grant us the great communion of your Church.

Ascension

Christ Jesus, you died on the cross, but you are risen and alive today. For all of us you prepare a place with God. We rely on your presence, which is now invisible. You told us: "I am with you always, until the end of time." May this hope of the Gospel spread out to all people!

Christ Jesus, on the Day of Ascension you help us understand that you never abandon us; you send a strength from above, your Holy Spirit. And the presence of the Spirit opens us to joy and praise.

Pentecost

Holy Spirit, Comforter, on this day of Pentecost we celebrate your presence. As Jesus promised, you give us the joy which endures deep within, a joy which carries us even in times of trial. You do not impose, you come to strengthen us, defending the dignity of each person. And in our great diversity it is in you that we find unity and peace.



Taizé