

WORLD DAY OF PEACE — 1st January, 1969

The Holy See has prepared the following liturgical texts for the worthy celebration of the World Day of peace, which will be held every year on the first day of January.

LITURGICAL TEXTS

- I. SCHEMAS FOR THE CELEBRATION OF THE WORD
- II. SUPPLEMENTARY TEXTS
 - A. Initial greetings
 - B. Readings from the Old Testament
 - C. Responsorial Psalms
 - D. Readings from the Apostles
 - E. Readings from the Gospel
 - F. Intentions for Universal Prayer
 - G. Prayers of the President
 - H. Concluding prayers of blessing
- III. SELECTION OF CONCILLAR TEXTS FOR THE HOMILY
- IV. VOTIVE MASS FOR PEACE

8. Homily

If there is no one to give the homily, a reading may be made from the Conciliar texts suggested in Section III.

Silence

9. A suitable hymn may be sung by the assembly.

10. Universal Prayer.

A. Repentance

In the presence of our Lord Jesus Christ who came to serve all men and bring them peace, let us humbly confess our sins and do penance. For our indifference towards all the ways in which our fellow men are oppressed and exploited,

℟ Lord, we ask your forgiveness.

For our insensitivity to the sufferings of peoples in need and our slowness in going to their aid,

℟ Amen.

For our wasteful habits and our unbridled seeking of our own well-being and comfort,

℟ Lord, we ask your forgiveness.

For the unfriendliness of our welcome to immigrants of other races and colours, and our superior attitude towards them,

℟ Lord, we ask your forgiveness.

For our unconcern in the face of living conditions, of housing and labour, which are a degradation for men,

℟ Lord, we ask your forgiveness.

B. Intercession

That the Church may faithfully proclaim the Gospel of peace and put herself still more at the service of all men,
Let us pray the Lord.

℟ Lord, God of peace, hear our prayer.

That all those who govern peoples may seek the good of all, and be not guided by personal ambition or the desire for power,
Let us pray the Lord.

℣ Lord, God of peace, hear our prayer.

That during the year 1969 all men of good will may work together for justice, liberty and peace,
Let us pray the Lord.

℣ Lord, God of peace, hear our prayer.

That all those who are today suffering from any form of oppression may receive from christians understanding and support,
Let us pray the Lord.

℣ Lord, God of peace, hear our prayer.

That our christian faith and our brotherly love may be shown in a more concrete effort to bring about universal peace,
Let us pray the Lord.

℣ Lord, God of peace, hear our prayer.

11. The Lord's Prayer

By the sacrifice of his life Jesus became "our peace", and he declared that they who work for peace are blessed; let us pray now to the one Father of us in the way he showed us:

Our Father

The Lord's Prayer may be ended with the traditional doxology:
For thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory, for ever and ever.

12. Act of charity

The faithful may be encouraged to give expression to their desire for peace by performing a concrete action, either individual or collective: inviting a stranger to a family meal, giving neighbour a helping hand, helping a person or family in need, making a contribution to an international organization, etc.

13. The celebration may be ended with a chant sung by the whole assembly.

SECOND SCHEMA

1. The celebration begins with the singing of a suitable chant by the assembly.

2. Greeting for the President

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

R Amen. *(2 Cor 13,13)*

3. First Reading

Is 11,1-9 The coming of the King of justice and peace.

4. Responsorial Psalm

Ps 71,2, 3-4ab, 7-8, 12-13, 17

R In his days may righteousness flourish, and peace abound.

5. Reading of the Gospel

Jn 13,1-17: "You also ought to wash one another's feet."

6. Homily

If there is no one to give the homily, a reading may be made from one of the Conciliar texts, suggested in Section II.

Silence.

7. Universal Prayer

Conscious of our vocation as christians to be peacemakers, and in union with all men who desire peace, let us pray to the one Father of us all. As you willed Jesus to speak the words, "Blessed are the peacemakers", so inspire your Church to strive ever more earnestly for the brotherhood of all men and the world's peace.

R Amen.

Since peace can be built on no other foundation than justice, liberty and love, grant, Lord, that all men may look upon each other as your children.

R Amen.

Grant that national leaders may be animated not by egoism, nor by personal or national ambition, but by your own Spirit of love in their concern for the good of all.

℣ Amen.

Comforter of the afflicted, have pity on the victims of wars, revolutions and oppression of whatever sort.

℣ Amen.

Grant that during this year 1969 we may all of us seek to bring justice to the poor and to establish peace among men.

℣ Amen.

8. Prayer of the President (or of the whole assembly)

Lord, God of peace, who in your loving kindness towards man, created him to be the partaker of your glory, we bless you and we give you thanks:

For you have sent to us Jesus, your beloved Son, and have made him, in his paschal mystery, the author of all salvation, the source of all peace and the bond of all brotherhood.

We give you thanks for the desires, the efforts and the achievements which your Spirit of peace has inspired in our days, stirring up love where there was hate, sympathy where there was suspicion, solidarity where there was indifference.

Open our spirits and our hearts still more to the concrete needs of love for all our brothers, so that we may be truly makers of peace.

Remember, Father of mercies, all those who are oppressed, who suffer and die, in bringing to birth a world of more genuine brotherliness.

May your kingdom of justice, peace and love come for men of every race and tongue, and may all the earth be filled with your glory.

Amen.

(Prayer of Pope Paul VI on 1st January, 1968)

9. Prayer of dismissal by the President

May the God of peace equip you with everything good that you may do his will, working in you that which is pleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ; to whom be glory for ever and ever.

R Amen. (Heb 13,20b-21)

10. The celebration may be ended with a chant sung by the whole assembly.

II

SUPPLEMENTARY TEXTS

A. INITIAL GREETINGS

1. *1 Tim 1,2b*: To you be grace, mercy and peace from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Lord.
2. *Gal 1,3-5*: Grace to you and peace from God the Father and our Lord Jesus Christ who gave himself for our sins . . . , according to the will for our God and Father; to whom be the glory for ever and ever.
3. Spanish Liturgy: The grace of God the Father almighty, the the peace and love of our Lord Jesus Christ and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be always with you.

B. READINGS FROM THE OLD TESTAMENT

1. *Ex 22, 20-26*: Respect for the stranger, the widow and the orphan; the kindly loan, restoration of pledges
2. *Is 58,1-12*: The fasting pleasing to the Lord is the practice of justice and charity.
3. *Mich 4,1-5*: The kingdom of peace of God in Sion.
4. *Zach 9,9-10*: The reign of peace of the Messiah-King.

C. RESPONSORIAL PSALMS

1. *Ps 33,2-3, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9*
Ps 33,10-11, 12-13, 14-15, 16-17, 18-19,
 R (2a): I will bless the Lord at all times.
 or (9a): O taste and see that the Lord is good.
2. *Ps 102, 1-2, 3-4, 6 and 8, 13-14*
 R (8): The Lord is merciful and gracious, slow to anger and
 abounding in steadfast love.
3. *Ps 111, 1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8, 9*
 R (1): Blessed is the man who fears the Lord, who greatly
 delights in his commandments.
4. *Ps 121, 1-2, 3-4a, 4b-5, 6-7, 8-9*
 R (1): I was glad when they said to me,
 "Let us go to the house of the Lord".
 or (*Sir 36, 16*): Give peace Lord, to those who wait for thee.
5. *Ps 144, 1-2, 8-9, 10-11, 13cd-14, 15-16*
 R (18a): The Lord is near to all who call on him.

D. READINGS FROM THE APOSTLES

1. *Eph 4, 1-6*: "One God and Father of us all".
2. *Eph 4, 22-32*: "Are we not members one of another?"
3. *1 Cor 13, 1-13*: "If I have not love, I am nothing".
4. *2 Cor 8, 9-15*: "For your sake he became poor, so that by his
 poverty you might become rich".
5. *Jas 2, 14-24*: "So faith by itself, if it has no works, is dead".
6. *1 Jn 3, 14-24*: "We ought also to lay down our lives for the
 brethren".
7. *1 Jn 4, 7-12*: "If we love one another, God abides in us".

E. READINGS FROM THE GOSPEL

1. *Mt 5, 21-26*: Murder and words of offence. Reconciliation with enemies.
2. *Mt 5, 38-42*: Not revenge, but submission.
3. *Mt 5, 43-48*: Love even of enemies.
4. *Lk 6, 27-36*: "Be merciful, even as your Father is merciful".
5. *Mk 6, 32-44*: The multiplication of the loaves.
6. *Mt 18, 21-35*: The forgiveness of injuries.
The parable of the unjust debtor.

F. INTENTIONS FOR UNIVERSAL PRAYER

1. *For peace between nations*

For the men of all countries, that they act not as enemies or aliens, but welcome each other as brothers,
let us pray the Lord.

2. *For the rulers of nations and those who assist them*

For all those who exercise government, that they may make effective the rule of justice and right,
let us beg the strength of God.

(Prayer of Pope Gelasius)

3. *For the Third World*

For the developing nations, that they may progress in well-being both of body and of spirit,
let us pray the Lord.

4. *For the oppressed*

For our brothers who are victims of the abuse of wealth and power, that they be speedily restored to their human dignity,
let us pray the Lord.

5. *For the hungry*

For all men who are tortured by hunger, that they may find, in

a more equitable distribution of earthly goods, all that they need for their sustenance,
let us pray the Lord.

6. *For the homeless*

For families who have no home, that they may quickly find a place in which they can lead a decent and happy life,
let us pray the Lord.

7. *For the illiterate*

For those who are deprived of education, that the bodies responsible for public instruction may truly work to their advantage,
let us pray the Lord.

8. *For workers*

That all men may find in a just and profitable employment the fulfilment of their vocation, both human and divine,
let us pray the Lord.

9. *For scientists and technicians*

For scientists and technicians, that by their researches and their labours they may make accessible to all men on earth a happy and a more worthy life,
let us pray the Lord.

G. PRESIDENTIAL PRAYERS

1. O Lord, let peace guide the course of world events, that your Church may serve you in joy and security.

Through Christ our Lord. (Roman Missal, 4th Sunday after Pentecost)

2. O God, the author and lover of peace; to know whom is to live and to serve whom is to reign, defend your people against all attacks, so that we who trust in your protection may live without fear of any enemy.

Through Christ our Lord. (Roman Missal, Votive Mass for Peace)

3. O God, creator of the world and Lord of history, in your goodness hear our prayers. Grant in our days an untroubled peace, so that we may unhindered praise your love with songs of joy. Through Christ our Lord. (Gelasian Sacramentary)
4. O God, of peace, you are yourself our peace. The spirit of discord can find no place in your presence nor can vengeance gain your favour. Preserve in good the hearts of the peaceful, and heal the hearts of the wayward by driving evil from their minds. Through Christ our Lord. (Gelasian Sacramentary)

H. CONCLUDING PRAYERS OF BLESSING

1. *2 Thess 3, 16a*: May the Lord of peace himself give you peace at all times and in all ways.
2. *Rom 15, 13*: May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope.
3. *Phil 4, 7*: May the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding keep your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.

III

SELECTION OF CONCILIAR TEXTS FOR THE HOMILITY

A. PASTORAL CONSTITUTION "GAUDIUM ET SPES"

1. The human condition today : n.4.
2. The aspirations of the contemporary world : n.9.
3. Man created in God's image : n.12.
4. The excellence of liberty : n.17.
5. Man renewed in Christ : n.22.
6. The unity of mankind according to God's will : n.24.
7. The interdependence of person and society : n.25.
8. Promoting the common good : n.26.
9. Respect for the human person : n. 27.

10. The equality of men and social justice : n.29.
11. The value and standards of human activity: nn.34-35.
12. The right of all men to culture : n.60.
13. The economic situation today : n.63.
14. Economic development in the service of man : nn.64-65.
15. Economic and social inequalities : n.66.
16. The right to work and the conditions of work : n.67.
17. The right to form labour unions : n.68.
18. The common purpose of earthly goods : n.69.
19. The right to private property : n.71.
20. The collaboration of all in political life : n.75.
21. The nature of peace : n.78.
22. International cooperation : nn.85-90.

B. DECREE "INTER MIRIFICA"

The right to information : n.5.

C. DECLARATION "GRAVISSIMUM EDUCATIONIS"

The right to education : n.1.

D. DECLARATION "DIGNITATIS HUMANAЕ"

The right to religious liberty : nn.2-8, 10, 15.

PRAYER FOR PEACE

O Lord, the God of Peace,
 You Who have created men
 and show them Your benevolence,
 so that they may share
 as sons in your glory,
 we bless You and we give thanks to You:
 Because you have sent us Jesus
 Your well-beloved Son,
 and, through the mystery

of his Resurrection,
 You have made Him the worker
of all salvation,
 the source of all peace,
the bond of all brotherhood.

We give thanks to You
 for the desires, the efforts,
the achievements
 stirred up by Your Spirit of peace
in our time,
 to replace hate by love,
mistrust by understanding,
 indifference by interdependence.
Open our minds and our hearts
 ever wider
to the real demands of the love
 of all our brothers,
so that we may become more
 completely peacemakers.

Remember, O Father of mercy,
all those who struggle,
 suffer and die
to bring forth a world
 of closer brotherhood.
May Your Kingdom of justice,
 of peace and of love,
come to men of every race
 and every tongue.
And may the earth be filled
 with Your glory!
Amen.

AN ANTHOLOGY: PEACE IN THE MAGISTERIUM

Here is a series of references to the texts of Pope Paul VI and of the Second Vatican Council which constitutes an anthology of the most recent statements of the Magisterium.

● FR. DOMINIC BAO, O.P.

PEACE IS CONSTRUCTIVE

But among numerous impressions this one remains...

It is peace that has accomplished this prodigy... "Blessed are the peacemakers, Christ the Lord says, for they shall be called the children of God". (Matt. 5,9)

(The Pope at Montecassino, Oss. Rom., November 6 1964, p. 1, col. 1, 2: "The virtue of peace").

APPEAL TO THE GOVERNORS

At the moment of leaving the soil of India... It is the object of Our instant prayer and Our most ardent wishes.

("For peace of men". Oss. Rom., December 18 1964 p. 7, col. 4, Bombay).

RECALL OF THE HORRIBLE PLAGUE

It seems almost impossible to us, while the past horrible plague is still living in our memory...

We have recourse today, with full confidence... Our supplications to the Most Blessed Virgin.

(General audience February 11, Oss. Rom., February 19, 1965, p. 1, col. 3-4).

THE ANGUISH THAT WE FEEL

We have received with emotion the message to which you have expressed your concern about...

...and they will know how to use the means in order to establish a peace which is durable and effectively guaranteed.

(To the Vietnamese Episcopacy, February 13., Oss. Rom., p. 12, col. 5 February 26, 1965).

TO LOVE, TO SERVE, TO INSPIRE PEACE

We have, then, three things to tell you.

... Jesus, the Prince of peace, possesses his peace, a peace which is characteristic and original... It regulates all relations with God.

(Discourse during the Mass at "Yankee Stadium" in New York, Oss. Rom., October 15 1965, p. 11, col. 1, 2).

THE CHRISTIAN PEACE

At the same time we note to what extent the world... to elevate the thoughts of men towards the ideals of peace, of concord, of collaboration and of fraternity.

(Discourse to the Sacred College of Cardinals. Oss. Rom., July 3 1964, p. 8, col. 1).

OUR DIALOGUE

But we cannot turn Our gaze from the contemporary world... so as to diffuse in all institutions and in all souls the understanding, the relish and the duty of peace.

(Encyclical letter ECCLESIAM SUAM: "The Dialogue of peace". Oss. Rom., August 14 1964, p. 7, col. 2).

MEN OF GOOD WILL!

We wish to write it in golden letters on the horizon of history... We transmit it to the world with Our salutation and Our Blessing.

(Discourse at Castel Gandolfo, "Appeal to peace". Oss. Rom., September 4 1964, p. 1, col. 3).

THE SITUATION IS UNCERTAIN AND MORE OBSCURE THAN EVER

The second motive of this exhortation comes from the situation that... from one moment to the other, to unleash the explosion of a new terrifying war.

(Encyclical letter Mense Majo., Oss. Rom. May 7 1965, p. 1, col. 2).

PEACE IS A GIFT OF GOD

But peace, Venerable Brothers, is not simply Our work... having recourse also to the intercession and to the patronage of the Virgin Mary, the Queen of peace.

(Encyclical letter *Mense Majo.*, *Oss. Rom.*, May 7 1965, p. 1, col. 3).

THE CONCORD AMONG THE CITIZENS

Without concord among the citizens, without public order, without collaboration... to Christ Who has come bringing peace to the World... to all faithfuls of this nation the greatest Apostolic Blessing.

Radiomessage for "Radio Loyola", in Bolivia. *Oss. Rom.*, August 6 1965, p. 8, col. 3).

THE UNITED-NATIONS, GREAT SCHOOL

For have, Gentlemen, accomplished, and are accomplishing a great work: you teach peace to men... Your sentiments of humanity and of generosity inspire Us.

For one another, To speak of humanity, of generosity... of PACEM IN TERRIS has found among you a resonance very honorable and very significant.

(Discourse to the assembly of UN.—*Oss. Rom.*, October 8 1965, p. 1, col. 4).

THE SUPREME GOOD OF PEACE

Here is the first aspect that the presence of the Church is interested in... revealed by Christ, their certain justification, the secret which facilitates its practice, and makes it discover its happiness.

(Radiomessage of Christmas.— *Oss. Rom.*, December 24 1965, p. 1, col. 4, 5).

WHO DOES NOT RECOGNIZE THE SOCIAL PEACE

And then, the sixth axiom, the most disputed and the most difficult... and that invites Us rather to another consideration which We approach now at the end of those synthetic observations.

(Discourse to the Worldwide Movement of Christian Workers, *Oss. Rom.*, June 3 1966, p. 2, col. 3, 4).

**THE DUTY OF PUTTING AN END TO THE
INHUMANITY OF WAR**

Gaudium at Spes. nn. 79, 80, 81.

THE NATURE OF PEACE

Gaudium at Spes, n. 78.

**TOWARD THE ABSOLUTE BANNING OF WAR.
INTERNATIONAL ACTION FOR AVOIDING WAR**

Gaudium at Spes, n. 82.

THE CAUSES OF DISCORDS AND THEIR REMEDIES

Gaudium at Spes, n. 83.

**THE COMMUNITY OF NATIONS
AND INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTIONS**

Gaudium et Spes, n. 84.

THE COOPERATION OF THE ECONOMIC PLAN

Gaudium et Spes, n. 85.
Dogmatic Constitution Lumen Gentium, n. 36.
Decree Dignitatis Humanae, n. 6.

**PEACE, INTIMATE COMMUNICATION BETWEEN
GOD AND MEN**

Decree ad Gentes divinitus, n. 3
Pastoral Constitution Gaudium et Spes, n. 76.

**THE UNIVERSAL RIGHT TO EDUCATION,
ITS NOTION**

Declaration de Educatione Christiana, n. 1.

THE CHURCH SENT BY CHRIST

Decree ad Gentes, chap. 1, n. 5.

**ACTIVE PRESENCE OF THE CHURCH
ON THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY**

Pastoral Constitution Gaudium et Spes, n. 89.