

Prayer Service
In Commemoration of the
Fifth Anniversary of
September 11

*(This simple prayer service could be used prior to any
parish meetings, formation classes, or rehearsals.)*

HYMN: *O God of Every Nation (or some other appropriate hymn)*

GREETING: **In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of
the Holy Spirit.**

**We gather this day/night,
aware of the violence and hatred that plagues
our world.**

**Let us ask God to open our hearts to the peace
that we are called to live.**

OPENING PRAYER

Let us pray.

(pause)

God of power and mercy,

**you destroy war and put down earthly pride.
Banish violence from our midst
and wipe away our tears
that we may all deserve to be called
your sons and daughters.
We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your
Son, who lives and reigns with the Holy
Spirit, one God for ever and ever. Amen.**

WORD OF GOD

Reading James 3:13-18
(or another appropriate reading – see *Lectionary*
nos. 887 - 891)

Psalm: Psalm 112: *A Light Rises in the Darkness*
(or another appropriate Psalm – see *Lectionary*
no. 889)

Silent Reflection

INTERCESSIONS:

**Our God is a God of peace and compassion. With
confidence let us bring our needs before the Lord.**

? For all victims of war and terror: for the families and victims of September 11th; for those engaged in military action; for refugees who seek safety and shelter; and for those who seek a non-violent end to terrorism. We pray to the Lord.

?For leaders of nations who are faced with complex and volatile conflicts: may peace through non-violence always be their goal. We pray to the Lord.

?For those whose trust in God has been shaken by recent world events, and for all whose hope has been shattered by terror and war. We pray to the Lord.

?For those who have given their lives in military service to our country and for those who grieve their loss. We pray to the Lord.

?For an end to war and violence, especially in the Middle East and Iraq, and for the victims of genocide in the Sudan. We pray to the Lord.

**Lord God,
Your own Son was delivered into the hands of the
wicked,
yet he prayed for his persecutors
and overcame hatred with the blood of the cross.
Relieve the suffering of those harmed by violence;
protect us all from the terror of others;
and keep us safe from the weapons of hate.
Restore our world to tranquility and peace
that your justice may reign for ever and ever.**

We ask this through Christ our Lord.

LORD'S PRAYER

Gathering our prayers and praises into one, let us pray the pray that Jesus taught us:

Our Father...

CONCLUDING PRAYER

God of perfect peace,

**Create in us a pure heart so that we may bear
witness to your presence in the face of our enemy.**

**In the midst of pain and suffering,
let your Spirit show us the way
to justice and forgiveness.**

**Remind us to love our enemy
and to do good to those who harm us.**

**Protect us, keep us safe,
especially from the weapons of hatred.**

**Grant us a willingness to forgive
and give us hearts of tranquility and peace.**

We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

BLESSING: *(This form of blessing used by lay leaders.)*

**May the Lord bless us +,
Protect us from evil,
And bring us to life everlasting. Amen.**

SIGN OF PEACE: Let us offer one another a sign of Christ's

peace.