



The **GLOBAL DAY OF ACTION AND PRAYER FOR SYRIA**

will be held on September 21. We hope that you will be able to join us either on that date or on your closest day of prayer in remembering the people of Syria and in lifting up “the things that make for peace.” The following Resources for Prayer on Peace & Syria are intended to help as you prepare for your own opportunity to participate in the Global Day of Action and Prayer for Syria. If you have other prayer resources on Peace and Syria you would like to share, please submit them on the [Interfaith Prayer Service Facebook](#) page.

Syria Global Day of Action and Prayer: September 21st, 2016

RESOURCES FOR PRAYER ON PEACE & SYRIA

Buddhist Tradition

Shantideva, Indian Buddhist sage 700 A.D.

Prayer performed each morning by His Holiness the Dalai Lama

May I be a guard for those who need protection
A guide for those on the path
A boat, a raft, a bridge for those who wish to cross the flood
May I be a lamp in the darkness
A resting place for the weary
A healing medicine for all who are sick
A vase of plenty, a tree of miracles
And for the boundless multitudes of living beings
May I bring sustenance and awakening
Enduring like the earth and sky
Until all beings are freed from sorrow
And all are awakened.

Christian Tradition

A Prayer for the People of Syria (Catholic Relief Services)

God, source of all compassion,
the promise of your mercy and saving help fills our hearts with hope.
Hear the cries of the people of Syria;
bring healing to those suffering from the violence,
and comfort to those mourning the dead.

Empower and encourage Syria's neighbors
in their care and welcome for refugees.
Convert the hearts of those who have taken up arms,
And strengthen the resolve of those committed to peace.

O God of hope and Father of mercy,
your Holy Spirit inspires us to look beyond ourselves and our own needs.
Inspire leaders to choose peace over violence
and to seek reconciliation with enemies.
Inspire the Church around the world with compassion for the people of Syria,
and fill us with hope for a future of peace built on justice for all.

We ask this through Jesus Christ, Prince of Peace and Light of the World.

A Prayer for Syria (Tearfund)

Father of all mercies, we cry out to you for the people of Syria, who continue to suffer so much.
Please pour out your love and compassion on all who are hungry, hurting and without hope.
Thank you that you love them with an everlasting love: please meet them at their point of need.
Lord, have mercy.

Lord Jesus, Prince of Peace, we pray that you will give wisdom to international leaders and politicians
as they consider the way forward in Syria. We ask that their hearts will be in tune with yours, and that
a path to lasting peace will be found.
Christ, have mercy.

Holy Spirit, comforter and encourager, thank you for the people who are working tirelessly to help all
those affected by this conflict. Please protect them, bless the work of their hands and use them to help
bring about a better society for the future.
Lord, have mercy.

Prayer inspired by Lamentations 5 (Mennonite Central Committee)

Remember, O Lord, what has befallen your children;
Look, and see their pain and suffering.
Five years of tension, of scarce resources, of lost community and identity,
Their inheritance has been turned over to strangers, their homes, schools and businesses destroyed in the
violence.
They have become orphans, fatherless; their mothers are now widows.
They are weary, but are given no rest.
They get their bread at the peril of their lives because of the sword, the gun in the wilderness.
Their skin is hot as an oven,
With the burning heat of hunger, the harshness of the climate.
Women are raped on their journeys, young women as they search for safety,
The joy of their hearts has ceased and dancing has been turned to mourning.
Young men are led away to fight against their own, and the elders' wise words have no audience.
We weep for them,
Those whose hearts are sick and weary,
Whose eyes grow dim with tears.
For their land is empty and desolate.
A place haunted by injustice,

Surrounded by angry voices speaking defiance,
Claiming violence as a solution.
But Lord, you remain the same forever!
Your throne continues from generation to generation.
Why do you continue to forget your children?
Why have you abandoned them for so long?

Pause for silent reflection

You are our strength and salvation, O God.
You are our hope and deliverer.
In the midst of fear and uncertainty in our lives
And when the powerless of the world are overwhelmed by mighty forces
Recall to us our true source of help.
Awaken us again to your strong presence within us.
Awaken us again to hope.

From The Lord is my light: A prayer service for Syria

A Prayer for The People of Syria (United States Catholic Conference of Bishops)

Almighty eternal God, source of all compassion,
the promise of your mercy and saving help fills our hearts with hope.
Hear the cries of the people of Syria;
bring healing to those suffering from the violence,
and comfort to those mourning the dead.
Empower and encourage Syria's neighbors
in their care and welcome for refugees.
Convert the hearts of those who have taken up arms,
and strengthen the resolve of those committed to peace.
O God of hope and Father of mercy,
your Holy Spirit inspires us to look beyond ourselves and our own needs.
Inspire leaders to choose peace over violence
and to seek reconciliation with enemies.
Inspire the Church around the world with compassion for the people of Syria,
and fill us with hope for a future of peace built on justice for all.
We ask this through Jesus Christ, Prince of Peace and Light of the World,
who lives and reigns for ever and ever.
Amen.

Petition:

*For the people of Syria, that God may strengthen the resolve of leaders to end the fighting and
choose a future of peace.
We pray to the Lord...*

Prayer for peace in Syria (Church of England)

How long oh Lord? How long?
We have been crying to you for peace in Syria; for an end to killing and despair, an end to hostilities on all
sides. We thank you for the current cessation of hostilities and pray it may turn into a long lasting peace.
We cry to you for humanitarian aid to reach those most in need.

We beseech you for the rebuilding of ruined homes, businesses and communities.
We long for the repairing of the breach and the restoration of streets where your children may dwell in harmony.
We cry out that justice, truth and love may prevail for all the people of Syria.
We pray in the name of the Prince of Peace, Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

8 ways to pray about the Syrian refugee crisis (World Vision)

1) The Syrian people are suffering from widespread conflict. More than 240,000 lives have been lost since the conflict began more than four years ago, and more than 1 million have been injured. Homes and businesses are being destroyed in the violence.

Lord, Psalm 46:9 declares that You “make wars cease to the ends of the earth.” Help those in conflict with one another to come to a peaceful solution, so that civilians may resume their daily lives. Lord, we trust in You.

2) Syrian families have been uprooted from their homes by the fighting, displaced in their own country, or fleeing to neighboring countries for safety.

*Lord, come to the aid of families who have fled to safety. Guide them to places where they can find help and rest.
Provide host communities with the resources to assist families arriving on their doorstep. Lord, we trust in You.*

3) The Syrian people are suffering from widespread conflict. More than 240,000 lives have been lost since the conflict began more than four years ago, and more than 1 million have been injured. Homes and businesses are being destroyed in the violence. As resources become scarce, tensions rise between refugees and their host communities. Families living in tents or dilapidated structures are particularly vulnerable to changing weather conditions.

Gracious Lord, we are helpless in the face of such desperation and tragedy. Let European government leaders come to compassionate solutions for refugees in these dire circumstances. Open our ears to what Your Spirit is saying about our personal involvement in helping meet the overwhelming needs of refugee children and families. Lord, we trust in You.

4) As resources become scarce, tensions rise between refugees and their host communities. Families living in tents or dilapidated structures are particularly vulnerable to changing weather conditions.

Lord, have mercy on those who have no warm place to stay. Provide desperate families with ample resources to withstand the weather. Infuse aid organizations with extra supplies to meet their variety of needs. Lord, we trust in You.

5) Many Syrian school-aged children are not able to attend classes because they've left their communities or because their schools are damaged or occupied by displaced families. Child refugees find it difficult to enroll and participate in classes that are not in their native language.

*Lord, You know that children whose educations are disrupted often have a hard time catching up. This threatens their future prospects to have a career and care for a family. We ask You to help children who are missing classes today.
Help them to resume their studies with ease. And give teachers the training to help these students regain what they may have lost. Lord, we trust in You.*

6) There are many ancient Christian communities in this region going back to New Testament times. Saul was helped by Christians in Damascus after his encounter with the ascended Christ (Acts 9). These communities today have requested prayer that they may stay strong in faith.

Lord, we lift to You our brothers and sisters in Christ living in this region. Strengthen them with power

through the Spirit (Ephesians 3:16). And help them to endure and remain faithful, knowing that nothing can separate them from Your love. Lord, we trust in You.

7) Syrian children face many safety and wellness issues. They're especially susceptible to malnutrition, dehydration, and diarrheal diseases. Because of the Syrian health system's deterioration, many have not been immunized or kept current on vaccinations, and outbreaks of measles and polio are common both in Syria and in refugee camps. Due to the nature of living in chaotic, overcrowded, and unfamiliar situations, children also are more vulnerable to sexual abuse and exploitation.

Jesus, You love the little children. Each Syrian child is precious to You. Protect their little bodies from dangerous diseases, and bring healing to those already sick. Keep away predatory adults who are looking to harm or profit from them. Bring loving adults to watch and nurture them as they strive to survive the harsh realities in which they live.

8) The Syrian conflict, now in its fifth year, and the chaos it has bred have become background noise to many people—even those who consider themselves compassionate. The political ramifications of the conflict keep many caring individuals at a comfortable distance. But there is an urgent need for donor governments to allocate funds to meet this humanitarian emergency, for churches to raise a cry of prayer and support for people in desperate circumstances, and for all of us to find a way to engage meaningfully for the sake of Syrian children and their families.

Gracious Lord, awaken us to the needs of Syrian children and their mothers and fathers. Let us not grow weary in doing what is right and good in Your eyes. Remind us to engage on their behalf as we would if it were our own families who were suffering. Help us be advocates for peace in this troubled land and open our hearts and wallets to pray and give gifts to help. Amen.

A Prayer for Hope (Christian Aid)

Lord, hear our prayers for Syria.
For people leaving everything behind to flee to safety,
for those who have lost loved ones,
for lives interrupted, educations stalled and families separated.
Lord, bless your people.
We thank you for the work of partners,
for the hospitality of neighbours, the generosity of strangers,
for those who give of themselves to help others,
for those who refuse to be silent in the face of injustice.
Lord, bless your people.
Lord, give the people of Syria hope,
for peace and justice to prevail,
for there to be new beginnings for all people living in that land,
for freedom to replace fear and for there to be a better tomorrow.
Lord, bless your people.
Amen.

A Prayer for Peace

Lord, we pray for the power to be gentle;
the strength to be forgiving;
And not sit beside the nest
Pouring pity on their breast,

the patience to be understanding;

and the endurance to accept the consequences of holding on
to what we believe to be right.

May we put our trust in the power of good to overcome evil
and the power of love to overcome hatred.

We pray for the vision to see and the faith to believe
in a world emancipated from violence,
a new world where fear shall no longer lead us
to commit injustice,
nor selfishness make them bring suffering to others.

Help us to devote our whole life and thought and energy
to the task of making peace,
praying always for the inspiration and the power
to fulfil the destiny for which we all were created.

Amen

Prayer and Intercession for Peace in Syria (Aid to the Church in Need)

God of Compassion,
Hear the cries of the people of Syria
Comfort those who suffer violence
Console those who mourn the dead
Give strength to Syria's neighbouring countries to welcome the refugees
Convert the hearts of those who have taken up arms
And protect those who are committed to peace.
God of hope,
Inspire leaders to choose peace over violence and to seek reconciliation with their enemies
Inflame the Universal Church with compassion for the people of Syria
And give us hope for a future built on justice for all
We ask this through Jesus Christ, the Prince of Peace and Light of the world.
Amen

On Another's Sorrow

(William Blake, 1757-1827)

Can I see another's woe
And not be in sorrow too.
Can I see another's grief
And not seek for kind relief.
Can I see a falling tear,
And not feel my sorrows share,
Can a father see his child,
Weep, nor be with sorrow filled.
Can a mother sit and hear,
An infant groan an infant fear-
No no never can it be.
Never never can it be.
And can he who smiles on all

Hear the wren with sorrows small,
Hear the small birds' grief & care
Hear the woes that infants bear-
and not sit the cradle near
Weeping tear on infant's tear. . .
He doth give his joy to all.
He becomes an infant small.
He becomes a man of woe
He doth feel the sorrow too.
Think not, thou canst sigh a sigh,
And thy maker is not by.
Think not, thou canst weep a tear,
And thy maker is not near.
O! he gives to us his joy,
That our grief he may destroy
Till our grief is fled & gone

He doth sit by us and moan.

Hindu Tradition

Peace and Prosperity Mantra

ॐ "यौः शांतिं र(त+र,ँ शांतिः
पृथिवी शांतिं रापः शांतिं(तरोषधयः शांतिः।
वनस्पतयः शांतिं 9वः; वे देवाः शांतिं >?: म शांतिः
सर्व B शांतिः शांतिं(तरेव शांतिः सा मा शांतिं(तरे0ध॥
ॐ शांतिः शांतिः शांतिः॥

May peace radiate there in the whole sky as well as in
the vast ethereal space everywhere. May peace reign all
over this earth, in water and in all herbs, trees and creepers.
May peace flow over the whole universe.
May peace be in the Supreme Being Brahman.
And may there always exist in all peace and peace alone.
Aum peace, peace and peace to us and all beings!

ॐ असतोमा स"गमय।
तमसोमा Hयोत्तर् गमया।
मृत्योमाःमृतं गमय॥
ॐ शांतिः शांतिः शांतिः॥

Lead us from the unreal to the real.
Lead us from darkness to light.
Lead us from death to immortality.
Aum peace, peace, peace!

ॐ सवM भव(तु सुPखनः
सवM स(तु Inरामयाः ।
सवM भSाPण प;य(तु
मा कि;च"दःु खभाWभवेत् ।
ॐ शाि(तः शाि(तः शाि(तः ॥

May all be prosperous and happy.
May all be free from illness.
May all see what is spiritually uplifting.
May no one suffer.
Om peace, peace, peace.

ॐ सह नाववतु ।
सह नौ भुनYतु ।
सह वीय Z करवावहै ।
तेजि8वनावधीतम8तु मा 9व"9वषावहै ॥
ॐ शाि(तः शाि(तः शाि(तः ॥

Aum! May He protect us both together;
May He nourish us both together;
May we work conjointly with great energy,
May our study be vigorous and effective;
May we not mutually dispute (or may we not hate any).
Aum! Let there be peace in me!
Let there be peace in my environment!
Let there be peace in the forces that act on me.

Jewish Tradition

A Rosh Hashana Prayer for Syria (Rabbi Mishael Zion as printed in The Forward 9/4/2013)

Master of the Universe, Father of Orphans, Protector of Widows,
Whose compassion is upon all creations – look upon the nations and rise from the seat of judgment and turn to the seat of compassion. Heal the wounded, release the imprisoned, sustain the fallen, and hasten redemption for the Syrian people.
God who can make paths in an ocean, carve out a path in this sea of distress, engender in the hearts of the warring sides compassion towards each other, and open their hearts in understanding towards us as well. Guide us as we strive to understand our role in this crisis. Give wisdom in the hearts of our leaders, and strengthen the hands of our defenders. Holder of Mercy, bring an end to this suffering, spread justice and forgiveness throughout the land, and may a great and wonderful peace spread all over the region, from Your holy land to all its neighbors, and to your entire world, and let us say:
Amen.

Muslim Tradition



In the Name of Allah, the Most Beneficent, the Most Merciful
All praises to Allah and thanks be to Allah, the Lord of all creation
And the best prayer and perfect salutations on our Prophet Muhammad
and his family and his companions.

- Allah, we ask You by Your best names and Your highest attributes to help our brothers and sisters in Syria.
 - Allah, be with them and do not be against them.
 - Allah, they are hungry so feed them.
 - Allah, they have no shelter so shelter them.
 - Allah, they have no money so give to them.
 - Allah, they have no security so grant them security.
 - Allah, they are weak so make them strong.
 - Allah, send down on them Your victory, the one You have promised sooner not later.
 - Allah, to You alone they complain of their weakness, their scarcity of resources, and the humiliation they have been subjected by the people.
 - Allah, they are Your slaves and Your servants so bestow Your mercy on them, ○ Allah the Lord of all creation.
 - Allah, for You only is the right to reproach until You are pleased.
- And there is no power and no might except by You, ○ Allah.
And all praises be to Allah and thanks be to Allah, the Lord of all creation.
And the best prayer and perfect salutations on our Prophet Muhammad
and his family and his companions, and everyone who follows them in the
right way until the Day of Judgement.

How Can You Take Part in the **GLOBAL DAY OF ACTION AND PRAYER FOR SYRIA?**

- Join the **GDAPS [Interfaith Prayer Service](#)** Wednesday, September 21st 2016, from 5-6:30 pm at the Community Church of NY at 40 East 35th Street in NYC. Use this [flyer](#) to promote the event and join us!
- Use the available [Toolkit of Resources](#) to plan a prayer service or other activity in your community in conjunction with the day.
- Your congregation, organization or community can endorse the interfaith [Call for an End to the War in Syria](#), which will be issued at a press conference prior to the service. To endorse, contact GlobalDayforSyria@gmail.com.
- Like and follow GDAPS us on social media at [Facebook.com/GlobalDayForSyria](https://www.facebook.com/GlobalDayForSyria) or using [#GlobalDayForSyria](#).

Current co-sponsors:

Association of Trauma Outreach and Prevention (ATOP) Meaningfulworld | Buddhist Council of New York | The Center and Library for the Bible and Social Justice | Colomban Center for Advocacy and Outreach | Community of Living Traditions at Stony Point Center | Conference of Major Superiors of Men | Disciples Peace Fellowship | Fellowship of Reconciliation | Franciscan Action Network | Global Ministries of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) and United Church of Christ | Interfaith Center of New York | JPIC Committee, Passionists of North America | Kolot Chayeinu/Voices of Our Lives | Leadership Conference of Women Religious | Maryknoll Office for Global Concerns | Mennonite Central Committee U.S. | Muslim Peace Fellowship | Pax Christi International | Pax Christi Long Island | Pax Christi USA | Presbyterian Church (USA) | Presbyterian Peace Fellowship | Refugee & Immigration Ministries, Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) | United Church of Christ, Justice and Witness Ministries | United Methodist Church, General Board of Church and Society