



New Personalist Movement

# Vespers for the Dead of Palestine and Lebanon

“From the days of John the Baptist until now,  
the kingdom of heaven suffers violence,  
and the violent bear it away.”

*Matthew 11:12*

God, ☩ come to my assistance.  
Lord, make haste to help me.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:

as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be. Amen.

*psalm 5*

**ant.** Make my way straight before your face, O Lord my God.

To my words give ear, O Lord;  
give heed to my sighs.  
Attend to the sound of my cry,  
my King and my God.

To you do I pray, O Lord  
In the morning you hear my voice;  
in the morning I plead and watch before you.  
You are no God who delights in evil;  
no sinner is your guest.

Neither shall the wicked dwell near you:  
nor shall the unjust abide before your eyes.  
You hate all the workers of iniquity:  
You will destroy all that speak a lie.

The deceitful and those who shed blood,  
the Lord abhors.  
Yet through the greatness of your merciful love,  
I enter your house.  
I bow down before your holy temple,  
in awe of you.

Lead me, Lord, in your justice,  
because of my foes;  
make straight your way before me.

There is no truth in their mouth  
their heart is vain,  
Their throat is an open sepulcher:  
they dealt deceitfully with their tongues

Declare them guilty, O God.  
Let them fail in their designs.  
Drive them out for their many transgressions,  
for against you have they rebelled.

All who take refuge in you shall be glad,  
and ever cry out their joy.  
You shelter them; in you they rejoice,  
those who love your name.

It is you who bless the just one, O Lord  
you surround him with your favor like a shield.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be. Amen.

**ant.** Make my way straight before your face, O Lord my God.

*psalm 23*

**ant:** He maketh me to lie down in green pastures.

The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.  
He maketh me to lie down in green pastures:  
he leadeth me beside the still waters.  
He restoreth my soul:

He leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake.  
Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,  
I will fear no evil:  
for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me.

Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies:  
thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over.

Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life:  
and I will dwell in the house of the LORD for ever.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:

as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be. Amen.

**ant:** He maketh me to lie down in green pastures.

*canticle: philippians 2:6*

**ant:** As the Father raises the dead and gives them life, so the Son gives life to whom he wills.

Though he was in the form of God,  
Christ did not count equality with God  
a thing to be grasped,

Rather, he emptied himself,  
And took the form of a slave,  
being born in the likeness of men.

And being found in human form  
It was thus that he humbled himself  
and became obedient unto death,  
even death on a cross.

Because of this,  
God highly exalted him  
and bestowed on him the name  
above every other name,

So that at the name of Jesus  
every knee should bow,  
in heaven and on earth and under the earth,  
and every tongue confess that  
Jesus Christ is Lord.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:

as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be. Amen.

**ant:** As the Father raises the dead and gives them life, so the Son gives life to whom he wills.

*reading: 1 corinthians 15:55-57*

“O death, where is thy victory?

O death, where is thy sting?”

The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law.

But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

*responsory*

℞. You Who called up Lazarus from the grave:

℞. O Lord, grant them rest and a place of forgiveness.

℣. Thou Who shalt come to judge the quick and dead, and the world by fire

℟. Do Thou, O Lord, grant them rest and a place of forgiveness.

℟. Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:

℟. O Lord, grant them rest and a place of forgiveness.

*psalm 116*

**ant:** May Christ welcome you into paradise.

I have loved, because the Lord will hear the voice of my prayer.

Because he has inclined his ear unto me:

and in my days I will call upon him.

The sorrows of death have compassed me:

and the perils of hell have found me.

I met with trouble and sorrow:

and I called upon the name of the Lord.

O Lord, deliver my soul.

The Lord is merciful and just,

and our God is abounding mercy.

The Lord is the keeper of little ones:

I was humbled, and he delivered me.

Turn, O my soul, into thy rest:

for the Lord has been bountiful to thee.

For he has delivered my soul from death:

my eyes from tears, my feet from falling.

I will please the Lord in the land of the living.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:

as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be. Amen.

℣. Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord.

℟. And let perpetual light shine upon them.

**ant:** I will walk before the Lord in the land of the living.

*psalm 120*

**ant:** The Lord shall keep thee from all evil, the Lord shall keep thy soul.

In my trouble I cried to the Lord:

and he heard me.

O Lord, deliver my soul from wicked lips,

and a deceitful tongue.

What shall be given to thee,

or what shall be added to thee, to a deceitful tongue?

The sharp arrows of the mighty, with coals that lay waste.

Woe is me, that my sojourning is prolonged!

I have dwelt with the inhabitants of Cedar:

my soul hath been long a sojourner.

With them that hated peace I was peaceable:

when I spoke to them they fought against me without cause.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:

as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be. Amen.

℟. Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord.

℞. And let perpetual light shine upon them.

**ant:** The Lord shall keep thee from all evil, the Lord shall keep thy soul.

*psalm 121*

**ant:** My help comes from the Lord, who made heaven and earth.

I have lifted up my eyes to the mountains,  
from whence help shall come to me.  
My help is from the Lord,  
who made heaven and earth.

May he not suffer thy foot to be moved:  
neither let him slumber that keepeth thee.  
Behold he shall neither slumber nor sleep,  
that keepeth Israel.

The Lord is thy keeper, the Lord is thy protection upon thy right hand.  
The sun shall not burn thee by day:  
nor the moon by night.

The Lord keepeth thee from all evil:  
may the Lord keep thy soul.  
May the Lord keep thy coming in and thy going out;  
from henceforth now and for ever.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:  
  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be. Amen.



℣. Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord.

℟. And let perpetual light shine upon them.

**ant:** My help comes from the Lord, who made heaven and earth.

*psalm 130*

**ant:** If Thou, Lord, shouldest mark iniquities, O Lord, who shall stand.

Out of the depths I have cried to thee, O Lord: Lord, hear my voice.

Let thy ears be attentive to the voice of my supplication.

If thou, O Lord, wilt mark iniquities: Lord, who shall stand it.

For with thee there is merciful forgiveness: and by reason of thy law, I have waited for thee, O Lord.

My soul hath relied on his word: my soul hath hoped in the Lord.

From the morning watch even until night, let Israel hope in the Lord.

Because with the Lord there is mercy: and with him plentiful redemption.

And he shall redeem Israel from all his iniquities.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:

as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be. Amen.

℣. Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord.

℟. And let perpetual light shine upon them.

**ant.** If Thou, Lord, shouldest mark iniquities, O Lord, who shall stand.

*psalm 138*

**ant:** O Lord, forsake not the works of thine own hands.

I will praise thee, O Lord, with my whole heart: for thou hast heard the words of my mouth.

I will sing praise to thee in the sight of the Angels: I will worship towards thy holy temple, and I will give glory to thy name.

For thy mercy, and for thy truth: for thou hast magnified thy holy name

In what day soever I shall call upon thee, hear me: thou shalt multiply strength in my soul.

May all the kings of the earth give glory to thee: for they have heard all the words of thy mouth.

And let them sing in the ways of the Lord: for great is the glory of the Lord.

For the Lord is high, and looketh on the low: and the high he knoweth afar off.

If I shall walk in the midst of tribulation, thou wilt quicken me: and thou hast stretched forth thy hand against the wrath of my enemies:

And thy right hand hath saved me.

The Lord will repay for me: thy mercy, O Lord, endureth for ever: O despise not the works of thy hands.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:

as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be. Amen.

℣. Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord.

℟. And let perpetual light shine upon them.

**ant:** O Lord, forsake not the works of thine own hands.

*verse*

℣. I heard a voice from heaven, saying unto me:

℟. Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord.

*canticle of the blessed virgin: luke 1:46-55*

**ant.** All that the Father giveth Me shall come to Me; and him that cometh to Me I will in no wise cast out.

My soul ✠ doth magnify the Lord.

And my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Saviour.

Because he hath regarded the humility of his handmaid; for behold from henceforth all generations shall call me blessed.

Because he that is mighty, hath done great things to me; and holy is his name.

And his mercy is from generation unto generations, to them that fear him.

He hath shewed might in his arm: he hath scattered the proud in the conceit of their heart.

He hath put down the mighty from their seat, and hath exalted the humble.

He hath filled the hungry with good things; and the rich he hath sent empty away.

He hath received Israel his servant, being mindful of his mercy:

As he spoke to our fathers, to Abraham and to his seed for ever.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:

as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be. Amen.

**ant:** All that the Father giveth Me shall come to Me; and him that cometh to Me I will in no wise cast out.

## *intercessions*

℣. We acknowledge Christ the Lord through whom we hope that our lowly bodies will be made like his in glory, and we say:

℟. Lord, you are our life and resurrection.

℣. Christ, Son of the living God, who raised up Lazarus, your friend, from the dead, raise up to life and glory the dead whom you have redeemed by your precious blood.

℟. Lord, you are our life and resurrection.

℣. Christ, consoler of those who mourn, you dried the tears of the family of Lazarus, of the widow's son, and the daughter of Jairus, comfort those who mourn for the dead

℟. Lord, you are our life and resurrection.

℣. Christ, Savior, destroy the reign of sin in our earthly bodies, so that just as through sin we deserved punishment, so through you we may gain eternal life.

℟. Lord, you are our life and resurrection.

℣. Christ, Redeemer, look on those who have no hope because they do not know you, may they receive faith in the resurrection and in the life of the world to come.

℟. Lord, you are our life and resurrection.

℣. You revealed yourself to the blind man who begged for the light of his eyes, show your face to the dead who are still deprived of your light.

℟. Lord, you are our life and resurrection.

℣. Christ, source of all hope, lift up our prayers for the dead of Palestine and Lebanon, may you pour your mercy upon them, and grant the living peace, justice, and endurance in their struggle.

℟. Lord, you are our life and resurrection.

Let us pray,

dearly beloved, to God the Father almighty, that he may cleanse the world of all errors, banish disease, drive out hunger, unlock prisons, loosen fetters, granting to travelers safety, to pilgrims return, health to the sick, and salvation to the dying.

Almighty ever-living God, comfort of mourners, strength of all who toil, may the prayers of those who cry out in any tribulation come before you, that all may rejoice, because in their hour of need your mercy was at hand.

Through Christ our Lord.

℞. Amen.

Our Father, who art in heaven,

Hallowed be thy name.

Thy kingdom come.

Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread.

And forgive us our trespasses,

as we forgive those who trespass against us.

℣. And lead us not into temptation:

℞. But deliver us from evil.

℣. From the gates of hell.

℞. Deliver their souls, O Lord!

℣. May they rest in peace.

℞. Amen.

℣. O Lord, hear my prayer.

℞. And let my cry come unto thee.

*in paradisum*

[In paradisum deducant te Angeli;  
In tuo adventu suscipiant te martyres,  
Et perducant te in civitatem sanctam Jerusalem.  
Chorus angelorum te suscipiat,  
Et cum Lazaro quondam paupere,  
Aeternam habeas requiem.]

May the angels lead you into paradise;  
May the martyrs receive you at your arrival,  
And lead you to the holy city Jerusalem.  
May the choirs of angels receive you,  
And with Lazarus, once poor,  
May you have eternal rest.

*concluding prayers*

Let us pray,  
God, our creator and redeemer, by your power  
Christ conquered death and returned to you in glory.  
Welcome all those who have died in Lebanon and Palestine into the light of your face.  
Protect those in danger of death.  
Heal those who are wounded in body and mind.  
Comfort those who mourn.  
Liberate those who are imprisoned.  
Inspire those without hope.  
May all those who could not be silent in the face of injustice,  
Who have gone before us in faith share his victory and enjoy the vision of your glory  
for ever,  
where Christ lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

℣. O Lord, grant them eternal rest.

℞. And let the everlasting light shine upon them.

℣. May they rest in peace.

℞. Amen.

## ***prayer for peace and justice***

*a revision of the Prayer for peace Pope Francis recited at his weekly general audience March 16, 2022, composed by Archbishop Domenico Battaglia of Naples*

Forgive us for the war, Lord.

Lord Jesus, son of God, have mercy on us sinners.

Lord Jesus, born under bombs in Gaza, have mercy on us.

Lord Jesus, dead in the arms of a mother in Beirut, have mercy on us.

Lord Jesus, in the 20-year-olds tortured, shot, detained, have mercy on us.

Lord Jesus, who continues to see hands armed with weapons under the shadow of the cross, forgive us, Lord.

Forgive us if, not content with the nails with which we pierced your hand, we continue to drink from the blood of the dead torn apart by weapons.

Forgive us if these hands that you had created to protect have been turned into instruments of death.

Forgive us, Lord, if we continue to kill our brother.

Forgive us, Lord, if we continue to kill our brother, if we continue like Cain to take the stones from our field to kill Abel.

Forgive us if we go out of our way to justify cruelty, if, in our pain, we legitimize the cruelty of our actions.

Forgive us the war, Lord.

Lord Jesus Christ, son of God, we implore you to stop the hand of Cain, enlighten our conscience, let not our will be done.

Stop us, Lord, stop us, and when you have stopped the hand of Cain, take care of him also. He is our brother.

O Lord, stop the violence. Stop us, Lord.

Amen.

## ***prayer to our lady queen of palestine***

*the Latin Patriarchate of Jerusalem has asked all Christians to join in this prayer for peace.*

Most Holy and Immaculate Mother of God,  
we humbly come before you to seek your intercession for Peace in a chaotic and  
dangerous world.

We confess that we are all guilty of repeatedly wounding your Immaculate Heart and  
the Sacred Heart of your Son our Lord by our actions.

For these offenses we offer to you our prayers and our devotion in reparation.

We ask for your succor during these difficult times where peace is seemingly so far  
away.

We earnestly seek your intercession with the Holy Trinity to bring Peace into the  
world, our country, and in our families.

Mary Most Holy, our petition is for you to seek the grace of the Holy Spirit to imbue us  
with a more perfect Christian love and compassion in each of our hearts.

We recall the requests you made of us to pray Your Holy Rosary and fervently to follow  
your Son our Lord.

When turning to you for aid, we trust in your promise to never leave us unaided and to  
advocate for our requests with your Son.

Now, in the midst of violence and division, of every imaginable form, as well as  
glorification of secular values, and world-wide conflict,  
we most earnestly pray for your Immaculate Heart to lovingly intercede with the Holy  
Trinity for your children to grant the grace necessary to effect peace in this time and  
in the region of your birth the Holy Land.

V. Hail to you most Immaculate and Blessed Mother of our Lord and God, Our Lady  
of Palestine,

R. Pray for us to have the gift of Peace.



## ***pope francis' prayer for peace***

Lord God of peace, hear our prayer!

We have tried so many times and over so many years to resolve our conflicts by our own powers and by the force of our arms. How many moments of hostility and darkness have we experienced; how much blood has been shed; how many lives have been shattered; how many hopes have been buried... But our efforts have been in vain.

Now, Lord, come to our aid! Grant us peace, teach us peace; guide our steps in the way of peace. Open our eyes and our hearts, and give us the courage to say: "Never again war!"; "With war everything is lost". Instill in our hearts the courage to take concrete steps to achieve peace.

Lord, God of Abraham, God of the Prophets, God of Love, you created us and you call us to live as brothers and sisters. Give us the strength daily to be instruments of peace; enable us to see everyone who crosses our path as our brother or sister. Make us sensitive to the plea of our citizens who entreat us to turn our weapons of war into implements of peace, our trepidation into confident trust, and our quarreling into forgiveness.

Keep alive within us the flame of hope, so that with patience and perseverance we may opt for dialogue and reconciliation. In this way may peace triumph at last, and may the words "division", "hatred" and "war" be banished from the heart of every man and woman. Lord, defuse the violence of our tongues and our hands. Renew our hearts and minds, so that the word which always brings us together will be "brother", and our way of life will always be that of: Shalom, Peace, Salaam!

Amen.

## ***our father of the martyrs***

*translation of Pai Nosso Dos Mártires by "PJ e Raiz", a band associated with Pastoral da Juventude, a Latin American Catholic Social Action organization*

Our Father of the Poor and Destitute,  
Our Father of the Martyrs,  
Our Father of the Tortured,

Your name is hallowed in those who die defending life;  
Your name is glorified, when justice is our mission;  
Your kingdom is freedom, fraternity, peace and communion;  
Deliver us from all violence that devours life through repression.  
We want to do your will, the will of the one true God who liberated us from sin;  
Deliver us from the oppressive powers who force their will upon us.  
We ask you for the bread of life, the bread of security, the bread of multitudes;  
The bread that brings humanity, humanity fed not by the sword but by the plowshare.  
Forgive us when out of fear we remain silent in the face of death.  
Forgive and destroy the kingdoms where bellies are the strongest law.  
Protect us from cruelty, from the death squad, from the privileged.

Our Revolutionary Father,  
Partner of the Suffering,  
God of the Oppressed  
Our Father of the Poor and Destitute,  
Our Father of the Martyrs,  
Our Father of the Tortured,  
graciously hear us, have mercy on us, and heal us. Amen.

## ***prayer for peace***

*composed by Patriarch Pizzaballa of Jerusalem*

Lord our God,  
Father of the Lord Jesus Christ,  
and Father of all mankind,  
Who in the cross of Your Son  
and through the gift of His own life,  
at great cost You wished to destroy  
the wall of enmity and hostility  
that separates peoples and makes us enemies:  
Send into our hearts  
the gift of the Holy Spirit,  
that He may purify us from every feeling  
of violence, hatred and revenge,  
enlighten us to understand  
the irrepressible dignity of every human person,  
and inflame us to the point of consumption  
for a peaceful and reconciled world  
in truth and justice, in love and freedom.  
Almighty and eternal God,  
in Your hands are the hopes of men  
and the rights of every people:  
Assist with Your wisdom those who govern us,  
so that, with Your help,  
they will become sensitive to the sufferings of the poor  
and of those who suffer the consequences  
of violence and war;  
may they promote the common good lasting peace in our region  
and throughout the earth.  
Virgin Mary, Mother of Hope,  
obtain the gift of peace  
for the Holy Land that gave birth to you  
and for the whole world.  
**Amen.**

“The only message I have to the world is: we are not allowed to kill innocent people. We are not allowed to be complicit in murder. We are not allowed to be silent while preparations for mass murder proceed in our name, with our money, secretly . . . It’s terrible for me to live in a time where I have nothing to say to human beings except, ‘Stop killing.’ There are other beautiful things that I would love to be saying to people.

There are other projects I could be very helpful at. And I can’t do them. I cannot.

Because everything is endangered. Everything is up for grabs. Ours is a kind of primitive situation, even though we would call ourselves sophisticated. Our plight is very primitive from a Christian point of view. We are back where we started. ‘Thou shalt not kill’; we are not allowed to kill. Everything today comes down to that—everything.”

Daniel Berrigan SJ at the trial of the Ploughshares Eight, February 1981