



WORSHIP OFFICE
Archdiocese of Newark

September 11 Prayer Service

This prayer service may be used outside of Mass on September 11 or at another appropriate time when commemorating the events of September 11, 2001. The intercessions may be used at Mass when appropriate.

OPENING HYMN

All stand.

A hymn or song from the suggested list below or another appropriate song may be sung.

GREETING

Leader:

In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

℟. Amen.

Today we recall the tragic events of September 11, 2001.

We remember all those who died on that day:

the innocent civilians and those who gave their lives trying to help others.

We ask for God's healing for all those

whose lives are still affected through trauma or grief.

Today we pray for peace for all the troubled places of the world,

and we remember all those who suffer from acts or threats of terrorism.

May God grant comfort to the afflicted and pardon for the sins of all people.

PRAYER

Let us take a moment to pray in silence
for healing, peace, and the ability to forgive.

Pause for silent prayer.

**O God,
who have revealed that peacemakers
are to be called your children, grant, we pray,
that we may work without ceasing
to establish that justice
which alone ensures true and lasting peace.**

**Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
God, for ever and ever.**

R. Amen.

From the *Roman Missal*, Masses and Prayers for Various Needs and Occasions, #30 For the Preservation of Peace and Justice

All sit.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

FIRST READING

Romans 8:31b - 39

A reading from the letter of Saint Paul to the Romans

If God is for us, who can be against us?

He who did not spare his own Son but handed him over for us all,
how will he not also give us everything else along with him?

Who will bring a charge against God's chosen ones?

It is God who acquits us.

Who will condemn?

It is Christ Jesus who died, rather, was raised,
who also is at the right hand of God,
who indeed intercedes for us.

What will separate us from the love of Christ?

Will anguish, or distress, or persecution, or famine,
or nakedness, or peril, or the sword?

No, in all these things we conquer overwhelmingly
through him who loved us.

For I am convinced that neither death, nor life,
nor angels, nor principalities,
nor present things, nor future things,
nor powers, nor height, nor depth,
nor any other creature will be able to separate us
from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

The word of the Lord.

✠ Thanks be to God.

The following alternative reading may be used or another appropriate reading from the Old or New Testament reading other than a Gospel.

ALTERNATE FIRST READING

Romans 12: 9-18, 21

A reading from the letter of Saint Paul to the Romans

Let love be sincere; hate what is evil, hold on to what is good; love one another with mutual affection; anticipate one another in showing honor.

Do not grow slack in zeal, be fervent in spirit, serve the Lord. Rejoice in hope, endure in affliction, persevere in prayer. Contribute to the needs of the holy ones, exercise hospitality. Bless those who persecute (you), bless and do not curse them. Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep. Have the same regard for one another; do not be haughty but associate with the lowly; do not be wise in your own estimation.

Do not repay anyone evil for evil; be concerned for what is noble in the sight of all. If possible, on your part, live at peace with all.

Do not be conquered by evil but conquer evil with good.

The word of the Lord.

℟️ Thanks be to God.

It is preferable that a musical setting of this or another appropriate psalm be used.

The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

℟️ The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

**The Lord is my shepherd;
there is nothing I shall want.
Fresh and green are the pastures
where he gives me repose.
Near restful waters he leads me,
to revive my drooping spirit.**

℟️ The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

**He guides me along the right path;
he is true to his name.
If I should walk in the valley of darkness
no evil would I fear.
You are there with your crook and your staff;
with these you give me comfort.**

℟️ The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

**You have prepared a banquet for me
in the sight of my foes.
My head you have anointed with oil;
my cup is overflowing.**

℟️ The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

**Surely goodness and kindness shall follow me
all the days of my life.
In the Lord's own house shall I dwell
for ever and ever.**

℟️ The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

All stand.

A Gospel acclamation should be sung before the proclamation of the Gospel.

GOSPEL

Matthew 5:38 - 48

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

You have heard that it was said, 'An eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth.' But I say to you, offer no resistance to one who is evil. When someone strikes you on your right cheek, turn the other one to him as well.

If anyone wants to go to law with you over your tunic, hand him your cloak as well. Should anyone press you into service for one mile, go with him for two miles. Give to the one who asks of you, and do not turn your back on one who wants to borrow.

"You have heard that it was said, 'You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy.' But I say to you, love your enemies, and pray for those who persecute you, that you may be children of your heavenly Father, for he makes his sun rise on the bad and the good, and causes rain to fall on the just and the unjust.

For if you love those who love you, what recompense will you have? Do not the tax collectors do the same?

And if you greet your brothers only, what is unusual about that? Do not the pagans do the same?

So be perfect, just as your heavenly Father is perfect.

The Gospel of the Lord.

✠ Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

The following alternative Gospel reading made be used or another appropriate Gospel reading.

ALTERNATE GOSPEL READING

John 15: 12-17

This is my commandment: love one another as I love you.
No one has greater love than this,
to lay down one's life for one's friends.

You are my friends if you do what I command you.

I no longer call you slaves,
because a slave does not know what his master is doing.
I have called you friends,
because I have told you everything I have heard from my Father.

It was not you who chose me, but I who chose you
and appointed you to go and bear fruit that will remain,
so that whatever you ask the Father in my name
he may give you.

This I command you: love one another.

The Gospel of the Lord.

℟️ Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

REFLECTION

All sit. A brief reflection may follow based on the scriptures.

All may stand and sing a hymn or song following the reflection.

PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL

Presider:

Let us turn our hearts toward heaven and ask God to hear our prayers.

Deacon or another suitable minister:

1. That the Church may always courageously preach the gospel message of forgiveness and reconciliation in all the regions of the world. We pray:
2. That, inspired by the words of Christ, nations may join hands and seek the way of peace together. We pray:
3. That the poor and those in need may know of God's compassion through our generous outreach. We pray:
4. That military personnel and civil servants may be protected in their efforts to bring about peace and security at home and abroad. We pray:
5. That we may be delivered from the fear of terror as we struggle to live our lives in peace with one another. We pray:
6. That we as God's holy people may forgive the wrongdoings of others as God has forgiven us our sins. We pray:
7. That all those who have died due to war or terror (especially, **N.**), and all the dead, (especially, **N.**), may find light, happiness and peace at the eternal banquet of the Lamb. We pray:

Presider:

**O God, creator of the world,
under whose governance
the design for all the ages unfolds,
be attentive, we pray, to our petitions
and grant to our times tranquility and peace,
that we may exult with unceasing joy
in praise of your great mercy.
Through Christ our Lord.**

R: Amen.

COLLECTION

At this time, a collection may be taken for those in need.

The collection should be placed in a central location until the end of the service.

A hymn or song from the suggested list below or another appropriate song may be sung.

LORD'S PRAYER

At the Savior's command and formed by divine teaching, we dare to say:

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. Amen.

BLESSING

All make the sign of the cross.

**May the Lord bless us, protect us from all evil
and bring us to everlasting life.**

Rx. Amen

SIGN OF PEACE

Let us conclude our service by offering each other the sign of peace.

All share a sign of peace.

CLOSING HYMN

A suitable hymn or song from the suggested list below or another appropriate song may be sung.

Music Suggestions: In Christ Alone (Stuart Townend), You Are All We Have (Francis Patrick O'Brien), The Cloud's Veil (Liam Lawton), Do Not Fear to Hope (Rory Cooney), O God Our Help in Ages Past (Traditional), Psalm 91: Be with Me (Marty Haugen), Psalm 25 (To you O Lord I lift my soul), Psalm 42 (Like a deer that longs for running streams, my soul longs for you O God), Psalm 90 (In every age, O Lord, you have been our refuge), I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say (Horatius Bonar), God Will Wipe Away Every Tear (MD Ridge), The Cry of the Poor (John Foley) Amazing Grace (Traditional), I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light (Kathleen Thomerson), Christ Be Our Light (Bernadette Farrell), We Shall Rise Again (Jeremy Young), Goodness is Stronger than Evil (John L. Bell), A Mighty Fortress is Our God (Traditional), O God, Our Help in Ages Past (Isaac Watts), An Appropriate Marian Hymn, America the Beautiful, God Bless America