

Prayer for JustPeace in the Philippines

God of peace and justice, your prophets of old proclaimed a day when weapons of destruction would be transformed into tools for cultivating the land, and when your people would no longer learn the ways of war. You call us to seek justice, pursue peace, and care for your creation.

Loving God, through Jesus Christ, our Prince of Peace, be our source of strength and hope. Fill us with your Holy Spirit, that we may turn away from hatred, violence, greed, and selfish interests. Give us courage to speak the truth, to defend those who are oppressed, and to work together for the common good.

Grant us peace according to your will, O God. Help us understand that there can be no genuine and lasting peace without justice. May we never accept a peace that silences the cries of the poor, ignores the rights of communities, or sacrifices people and creation for profit and power.

We remember and pray for farmers who have no land of their own; for workers who continue to struggle for a living wage; for fisherfolk and rural communities whose livelihoods are threatened; and for Indigenous Peoples who are displaced from their ancestral lands to make way for projects that serve interests more powerful than their own.

Today, we especially remember and pray for the Ayta communities who are experiencing harassment, threats, and displacement in connection with the proposed Pax Silica project. Protect their lives, dignity, culture, and ancestral lands. Strengthen them in their struggle for justice, and open the hearts of those in authority to listen to their voices and respect their rights.

Teach us, O God, not to remain silent in the face of injustice. Help us organize ourselves peacefully and courageously to stand with the Ayta communities and with all peoples defending their ancestral lands, livelihoods, dignity, and God-given rights. Make us faithful companions in their struggle and responsible stewards of your creation.

We pray that government resources and public services will truly serve the interests of the poor and marginalized. Give wisdom and courage to our leaders so that they may choose the path of justice rather than corruption, greed, political self-interest, and the concentration of power.

We pray for an end to armed conflict in our land. May the Philippine government and the National Democratic Front of the Philippines earnestly address the roots of the armed conflict and pursue meaningful dialogue toward a just and lasting peace. Give us courage to seek pro-people solutions, and protect those who genuinely work for justice.

We believe that unless the roots of poverty, landlessness, inequality, corruption, political dynasties, and the self-interest of those in power are confronted and transformed, armed conflict and social unrest will persist. Therefore, teach us to work not only for the absence of war, but for a society where justice, equality, human dignity, and care for creation flourish.

God of mercy, hear the cries of your people. Give us the courage to stand with the oppressed, the wisdom to seek what is right, and the compassion to walk together toward reconciliation.

We earnestly pray for just and lasting peace in our communities and throughout the Philippines. May your Spirit unite us in the work of justice. May your mercy sustain us, your truth guide us, and your love make us instruments of peace.

May your power prevail, and may your will be done on earth as it is in heaven.

We offer this prayer in the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord, and Prince of Peace,
Amen.