

“I Will Not Leave You Comfortless”



A Prayer Service for the First Anniversary
of the Haiti Earthquake

January 12, 2011

Created by the IHM Sisters of Monroe, Michigan

Quiet Reflection:

What element of this tragedy touches me most deeply?

How can I participate in the healing of Haiti?

Prayers of petition:

Response: Jesus, look with compassion on your beloved Haiti

- For the dead, those who were buried in mass graves without the comforting rituals of Haitian culture and for those who mourn, let us pray
- For the survivors traumatized physically and mentally, for amputees and orphans, let us pray
- That the Church in Haiti will focus on the poorest and that clergy and religious will maintain hope, let us pray
- For an end to deforestation and support of agriculture in this island that once supplied Europe with produce, let us pray
- For strengthening and expansion of education in Haiti where illiteracy is 60 %, let us pray
- For a strengthening of the public health system where life expectancy is 54 years and one in 5 children die before their first birthday, let us pray
- For meaningful employment where hand to mouth living is the norm, let us pray
- For free and fair elections, for leaders who spurn corruption and nepotism and work for real needs of the population, let us pray

- In thanksgiving for those all over the world who work and pray for the betterment of Haiti so Haitians will know that they are valued and loved by God, let us pray

Song

The Servant Song - Richard Gillard

Closing Prayer

Adapted from a prayer by Diana Macalintal

Lord, at times such as this,
when we realize that the ground beneath our feet is not as solid as
we had imagined,
we plead for your mercy.
As the things we have built crumble about us,
we know too well how small we truly are on this fragile planet we
call home.
Yet you have promised never to forget us.
Do not forget us now.
Today, so many people are afraid.
Comfort them, Lord, in this disaster.
Be their rock when the earth trembles and shelter them under your
wings.
Embrace in your arms those who died so suddenly and console the
hearts of those who mourn.
Pierce, too, our hearts with compassion, we who watch from afar,
as the poorest find only misery upon misery.
Move us to act swiftly this day,
to give generously every day,
to work for justice always,
and to pray unceasingly for those without hope.
Don't let us forget that we are all your children and they, our
brothers and sisters.
We are all the work of your hands.

For though the mountains leave their place and the hills be tossed
to the ground,
your love shall never leave us,
and your promise of peace will never be shaken.
Our help is in the name of the Lord,
who made heaven and earth.
Blessed be the name of the Lord, now and forever.
Amen.

Act Now!

Immediately after the earthquake, countries throughout the world moved quickly to assist Haiti in its recovery and reconstruction processes. The United States joined in this effort and, on April 26, passed the Haiti Debt Relief and Earthquake Recovery Act of 2010.

This legislation, now Public Law 111-158, calls on Treasury Secretary Geithner to direct the U.S. Director of the International Monetary Fund, the International Development Association, the Inter-American Development Bank, the International Fund for Agricultural Development and other multilateral development institutions to seek cancellation of all remaining debts owed by Haiti.

Go to:

<http://capwiz.com/holycrossjustice/issues/alert/?alertid=17171501>

to urge your Senators and Representative to exercise their oversight responsibilities to see that Haiti receives all the aid promised by the U.S. government and people.