

## Guide us to your truth

God of today, of yesterday and tomorrow,

We are your people, created in your image. In our diversity we have strength;

in our shared humanity a common hope, a vision of life unbound by time.

We have come together to celebrate, to reflect and to recommit ourselves to your work.

Shake us out of our complacency, rock our comfortable certainties

And challenge us to recognise the face of Christ in the eyes of our neighbour.

May our hearts be open to the challenge of your call to true freedom,

Our minds and hands ready to grasp the opportunity for change.

Inspire us with your message, open us to the joy of your word,

And guide us to the heart of truth, today and always.

*Linda Jones/CAFOD*

## Prayers of intercession

*We pray for the Church,*

that it may be a strong voice crying out for change  
and against the injustices which keep people poor.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer**

*We pray for world leaders*

and for all who hold positions of responsibility and authority,  
that they may recognise and actively seek opportunities to tackle poverty  
and bring about greater equality,  
so that all may enjoy the possibility to achieve their potential and live their lives to the full.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer**

*We pray for ourselves,*

that we may take any opportunities to look at our own lifestyles,  
and to make the world a better place by learning to share what we have.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer**

*We pray for the work of CAFOD*

here and overseas, that it may be a sign of hope for all who struggle,  
and a beacon that reminds us that,  
even in a broken world, change is possible.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer**

*Linda Jones/CAFOD*

## Intercessions for global community

We pray for the Church,  
that through its prayers, actions and public statements  
it may continue to work towards a world where all are free  
from the pain of hunger and the terror of war.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer**

We pray for world leaders,  
that they may be inspired to work together  
to tackle the causes of poverty and injustice,  
and to use their power, not for their own glory but for the good of all.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer**

We pray for ourselves,  
that we may have the courage to be witnesses to the power of sharing  
and to the values of global community.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer**

*Linda Jones/CAFOD*

# Making God's love known

God our strength and our refuge

In our waiting

in our praying

in our being

by our actions

and our words

by our choices

and decisions

May we make your love known

In our tears

And our anger

By our sharing

and our sheltering

Through our joy

And thanksgiving

May we make your love known.

*Linda Jones/CAFOD*

## Prayer for our country

God Our Father,  
You have given all peoples one common origin,  
And your will is to gather them as one family in yourself.

Give compassion to our leaders, integrity to our citizens, and repentance to us all.  
Fill the hearts of all women and men with your love  
And the desire to ensure justice for all their brothers and sisters.

By sharing the good things you give us  
May we ensure justice and equality for every human being,  
An end to all division, and a human society built on love,  
Lasting prosperity and peace for all.

We ask this through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Amen.

Our Father  
Hail Mary  
Glory be to the Father

*Zimbabwe Catholic Bishops' Conference*

# The healing of your people

Loving Creator, you have made us in your image  
And we yearn for the healing of all your people.  
Fill our hearts with the fire of your love  
And our minds with a thirst for justice.

Embolden us to cry out against oppression,  
Empower us to work for the coming of your kingdom,  
And enrich us with your life-giving spirit  
So that all creation may feel your touch and be healed.

We ask this in the name of our crucified, risen Lord,  
Our liberator and redeemer, Jesus Christ.

Amen.

*Annabel Shilson-Thomas/CAFOD*