

**ACT PALESTINE FORUM  
PRAYER VIGIL FOR PEACE IN THE MIDDLE EAST**

**Prayer Petitions for the Healing Presence of the Resurrection**

**Tuesday, 24 May 2016**

*Every day in the month ahead, we continue to pray with and for our sisters and brothers in Palestine and Israel who have called for an ecumenical prayer vigil across the globe on the 24th of every month.*

This month, we lift up prayers for our sisters and brothers in Israel and Palestine who live under the threat of violence and humiliation. The prayers, written by ACT Palestine Forum member, [International Orthodox Christian Charities](#), focus on the peace the resurrection of Jesus Christ brings into the world.

During the month, we will continue to pray for Palestinians and Israelis, and advocate for non-violent means of pursuing justice. We invite you to prepare and send prayer petitions for us to share on the APF website.

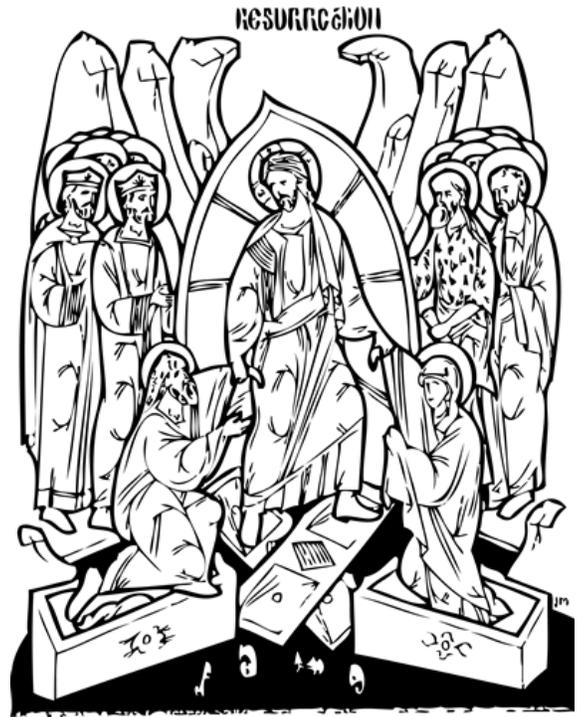
APF encourages its friends and partners to visit the [APF website](#) and [APF Facebook](#) page often to find, and also contribute, updates, photos, stories, advocacy ideas, and special prayers.

The creators recommend having two readers in addition to a leader. If the leader will prepare a short reflection, IOCC has the following suggestions that could be used:

- a. External rules, like fasting, are not an end in themselves, but are intended to sensitize us to the suffering around us so that we lose the bonds of wickedness, remove the heavy burdens that people carry, help the oppressed and disenfranchised, etc. as the reading in Isaiah states.
- b. The work that we continue only happens completely when we allow the Holy Spirit to empower us as promised by Christ in Acts, as He reminds the Apostles after His resurrection.
- c. And that our followership of Christ is evidenced in our love for one another.

Please use the following prayers:

**ACT Palestine Forum**  
***Prayer & Meditation***  
**May 24, 2016**



**Leader:** In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

*People:* AMEN

**Leader:** Christ is Risen from the dead, by death, He has trampled upon death, and to those in the tombs, He has granted life. (Sung three times while the Paschal candle is passed to each participant)

*People:* *Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and forevermore. AMEN*  
*O Most Holy Trinity, have mercy on us! O Lord, cleanse us from our sins! O Master, pardon our transgressions! O Holy One, visit and heal our infirmities for Your Name's sake. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and forevermore. AMEN* Our Father, Who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy Name.... (Lord's Prayer)

Psalm 3: **Leaders/People** (Read antiphonally)

**L: O Lord, how many are my foes! Many are rising up against me**

*P: Many are saying of me, there is no help for him in God.*

**L: But You, O Lord, are a shield about me, my glory and the lifter of my head.**

*P: I cry aloud to the LORD and he answers me from his holy hill.*

**L: I lie down and sleep; I awake again, for the Lord sustains me.**

*P: I will not be afraid of ten thousands of people who have set themselves against me round about.*

**L: Arise, O Lord! Deliver me O my God! For You smite all my enemies on the cheek, You break the teeth of the wicked.**

*P: Deliverance belongs to the LORD; your blessing be upon your people!*

**Reader 1:** A reading from the book of Isaiah 58:6 – 8.

**Reader 2:** A reading from the book of ACTS 1:1 – 8.

**Leader:** The Reading is from the Gospel of St. John (13:34 & 35; 14:15 - 16) Let us listen attentively!

*People: Glory to You, O Lord, Glory to You! (Repeat also after the Reading)*

**Leader:** Reflection

*People: O Heavenly King, Comforter, who grants all blessings, we thank You for Your abundant grace and mercies. Help us to be good stewards of Your treasury through our shared ministry. Help us to strip ourselves of our earthly adornment, so that the poor may be sufficiently clothed and fed. And, by so loving our neighbor, adorn us with the everlasting pearls of virtue instead.*

*Where there is suffering, help us to bring Your mercy.*

*Where there is despair, Your hope;*

*Where there is war, allow us to present You who are the Prince of Peace;*

*Where there is pain, You who are the Comforter;*

*Where there is hatred, You who are Love;*

*Where there is death and destruction, You who are the Resurrection and Life.*

*Daily guide our work, so that we may do all things, in all places, for Your glory. AMEN*

**Leader:** Have mercy on us according to Your great mercy, we pray to You, hear us and have mercy.

*People: Lord have mercy (Repeated after each petition) Rx*

**Reader 1:** Again we pray for mercy, life, peace, health, salvation, protection, and the forgiveness of sins for the members of our faith communities, our leadership, our supporters, our staffs who serve throughout the world, and those whom they serve. **Rx**

**Reader 2:** Again we pray that all places may be spared from all violence, affliction, famine, earthquakes, floods, fires, civil strife, invasion by foreign enemy, and that the Prince of Peace may extend His peace upon us all. **Rx**

*People: O Christ our God, You are worshipped at all times and in all places and are glorified both in heaven and on earth. You are patient, generous in mercy, rich in compassion, loving to the just and merciful to the sinner. You call all of us to repentance through the promise of blessings to come. O Lord, receive our supplications at this very hour. Direct our lives in the way of Your commandments. Sanctify our souls, purify our bodies, set our minds aright, cleanse our thoughts, deliver us from all affliction, wrath, danger, and need. Surround us with Your holy angels, so that, guided and guarded by their ranks, we may reach unity of the faith and the knowledge of Your unutterable glory. For You are blessed forever. AMEN*

**Leader:** Christ is Risen from the dead, by death, He has trampled upon death, and to those in the tombs, He has granted life. (Read or Sung).

*People: Truly the Lord is Risen!*