

Peace -- October Prayer Service

Call to Prayer Leader: Continually in his letters to Louise de Marillac, Vincent urges "... *be at peace* ...," especially with regard her son, Michel. As we begin our time of prayer and reflection and continue our 400th celebration, let us words to us: *be at peace*, allowing them to settle any agitation we may have within.
Coste, Vincent, V1, L63, 64, 101, 119, 297a,359 ...



All: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Hymn "Bring Forth the Kingdom" (refrain only)

Bring forth the King-dom of mer - cy, Bring forth the
King-dom of peace; Bring forth the King-dom of jus - tice,
Bring forth the Cit - y of God!

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Antiphon All: "...we have reason to hope that the God of peace will give us peace and continue His Providence for us..." Vincent, 13b, 197, To the Ladies in a report on the Work of the Foundlings, [1647], p. 425

Isaiah 66: 10 - 14 (Alternate sides, please.)



- I. Rejoice with Jerusalem! Be glad for her, all who love her.
Share her great joy, all who know her sadness.
- II. Now drink your fill from her comforting breast,
enjoy her plentiful milk.
- I. For this is what the Lord says: "Look! To her, I extend peace
like a river, the wealth of the nations like a stream in full flood.
And you will drink!
- II. "I will carry you on my shoulders, cuddle you on my lap.
I will comfort you as a mother nurses her child.

All: Jerusalem will be your joy. Your heart will rejoice to see it. You will flourish like grass in spring."
Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit,
as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

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Quotes of St. Vincent de Paul (A different person read each, pausing briefly between, please.)

Please, live peacefully in this assurance, even, I say, in the joy of a heart that desires to conform itself completely to that of Our Lord. V1, L41 to Louise, February 1630, page 69

You are trying to become the servant ... and God wants you to be His own ... And if you were only His, is it not enough for God that your heart is honoring the tranquillity of Our Lord's? Then it will be fit and ready to serve Him. The kingdom of God is peace in the Holy Spirit; He will reign in you if your heart is at peace. So, be at peace ... and you will honor in a sovereign way the God of peace and love. V1, L71 to Louise, before 1632, page 111

He not only tells us to accept this divine peace when it is offered to us, but to seek it out, to run after it. V1, L150 to Michel Alix, Pastor of Saint-Ouen-l'Aumone, September 16, 1633, page 214

A most serene peace [is a] sign of the very close bond uniting [us] to God ... V13a, 29, Deposition at the Process of Beatification of Francis de Sales, April 17, 1628, page 83

Finally, to the Ladies in Paris: "...we have reason to hope that the God of peace will give us peace and continue His Providence for us..." V13b,197, Report on the Work of the Foundlings, [1647], page 425



Reflection and Sharing: Let us pause to reflect. Then share.

When do I feel peaceful and tranquil? With whom? Where?

What can I do to nurture a peaceful spirit within myself, in my home, in my daily circumstances, in my service of persons living in poverty?

Response: "Bring Forth the Kingdom" (refrain, page 1)

Closing "Let There Be Peace on Earth"

Let there be peace on earth and let it begin with me.
Let there be peace on earth, the peace that was meant to be.
With God as our Father, we are family.
Let us walk with each other in perfect harmony.
Let peace begin with me, let this be the moment now.
With ev'ry step I take, let this be my solemn vow:
To take each moment and live each moment in peace eternally.
Let there be peace on earth and let it begin with me.



Blessing (from St. Vincent to St. Louise and to us)

All respond AMEN to each statement.

Leader: I conclude by begging you to honor the peace and tranquility of Our Lord's soul ... V1, L223, page 318
We must remain at peace after we have done all we can ... V1, L224, page 320
Courage, I wish you the peace of Our Lord and am your servant ... V1, L221, page315

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Prayer Texts

John 14: 27 "... my peace is my gift to you ... Do not be ... fearful."
James 3:18 "The one who serves ... do it ... with the strength ... [of] God."