

To: All Clergy
From: Office for Divine Worship, Very Reverend Matthew J Kujawinski, VF
Date: March 31, 2022
Re: Bishop Persico adds two solemn intercessions to Good Friday Liturgy

The Roman Missal states that “in a situation of grave public need, the Diocesan Bishop may permit or order the addition of a special intention” (Roman Missal, The Passion of the Lord, no. 13) in addition to the ten solemn intercessions which are provided for the Good Friday Liturgy.

As previously noted, Bishop Persico has directed that we continue to pray for relief from the COVID Pandemic. He now adds a prayer for peace in Ukraine.

Below are both additional prayers. The prayer for an end to the pandemic was published last year (2021) by the Holy See. The following text for the 12th solemn intercession, “For peace in Ukraine”, was composed by the Bishops of Austria.

The prayer in silence may be replaced by “Let us kneel. Let us stand,” said or sung by the deacon if one is present.

Chant notation for both prayers is available from the Office for Divine Worship.

XI. For an end to the pandemic:

Let us pray, dearly beloved, for a swift end to the coronavirus pandemic that afflicts our world, that our God and Father will heal the sick, strengthen those who care for them, and help us all to persevere in faith.

Prayer in silence. Then the Priest says:

Almighty and merciful God, source of all life, health, and healing, look with compassion on our world, brought low by disease; protect us in the midst of the grave challenges that assail us and in your fatherly providence grant recovery to the stricken, strength to those who care for them, and success to those working to eradicate this scourge. Through Christ our Lord.

R. Amen

XII. For peace in Ukraine:

Let us pray for the people in Ukraine, and in all war zones of the world, for those who have fled the dread of violence and have been deprived of their homes, for all women and men who stand up with their lives to ward off evil and to protect the weak and the persecuted.

Prayer in silence. Then the Priest says:

Almighty and eternal God, you have compassion for the lowly and the poor, but you throw down oppressors. As you guided Israel out of slavery in Egypt, so in our days save all victims of war and violence. Change the hearts of evildoers, and let peace be victorious. Through Christ our Lord.

R. Amen.