

Interfaith Litany in times of Crisis

(Each petition below should be prayed clearly & audibly by a different participant. The assembled group does the “Response by all”¹)

Most merciful God, we come before you asking for your help. We are in great despair over the state of our world and over the pain of our sisters and brothers,

RESPONSE BY ALL: Merciful God, show us your mercy

(Pause 3-5 seconds)

God, giver of peace, we appeal to you because we are fighting again. We are failing to honor each other and protect each other from harm.

RESPONSE BY ALL: Peaceful God, pour your peace upon us abundantly

(Pause 3-5 seconds)

Lord, giver of gifts, we have not been grateful for the gift of our lives, our world and our communities, people are hurting, hungry and grieving, despite the abundance of your gifts,

RESPONSE BY ALL: Giving God, help us use our gifts in gratitude and love

¹ Written by Br. Alberto Varona on November 2, 2023 for use at SXU Interfaith Prayer.

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(Pause 3-5 seconds)

God who sees and hears all, you take notice of the bad intentions & terrible actions of your people

RESPONSE BY ALL: Correct us Lord, since you see and hear everything

(Pause 3-5 seconds)

God, giver of justice, you can see how we dishonor each other, destroy each other, fail each other and value injustice and lies over justice and truth,

RESPONSE BY ALL: Just God, correct us and make us see what we are doing

(Pause 3-5 seconds)

God, preserver and protector, be among us, wipe our tears, guard our bodies and those of our loved ones who are being attacked,

RESPONSE BY ALL: Protector, guard us and preserve us in life

(Pause 3-5 seconds)

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Lord, you are sufficient, you can provide us with fulfillment and satisfaction, we are feeling empty and have great longing

RESPONSE BY ALL: Fill us and satisfy us with your great presence

(Pause 3-5 seconds)

Responsive Lord, we wait and we hope, knowing that you will act in our world and in our lives, show us that our hope is warranted,

RESPONSE BY ALL: Respond to us and preserve our hope

(Pause 3-5 seconds)

O most praiseworthy God, there is nothing more magnificent than you, your love, our lives and our world. You are always to be praised,

RESPONSE BY ALL: We praise you, we thank you and we magnify you

(Pause 3-5 seconds)

Eternal satisfier of needs, our loved ones are grieving, hungry, thirsty, confused, in pain and in great despair

RESPONSE BY ALL: Satisfy us as only you can, the source of all things

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(Pause 3-5 seconds)

Lord, most kind, be gentle with us, grant us your kindness that it should overflow from us and into our suffering world

RESPONSE BY ALL: Kind God, help us be kind like you

(Pause 3-5 seconds)

God, most patient and forbearing, do not see only our weaknesses and failures, but see also our strengths and successes, that we should stay active in your work

RESPONSE BY ALL: Be patient Lord, we are trying and persevering

(Pause 3-5 seconds)

Glory to you, Lord God, and all of our praise is to you. We seek your help and forgiveness.

RESPONSE BY ALL: Thanks be to God