A Litany for the G20 Leaders, Part 1

For all those who have fallen victim to hatred and inhumanity, for those loved ones who are left behind to mourn, for the souls of those whose hearts are cold, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, hear our prayer

For all the children who have died before their time, for the soldiers who allow their uniform to strip them of their humanity, for the healers who are denied the opportunity to use their gifts, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, hear our prayer

For the redemption of souls of both victim and perpetrator, for those who commit themselves to the forgiveness of sins, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, hear our prayer

For President Barack Obama and his government, for the 14 million children who live in poverty in the wealthiest country in the world; for all those facing the death penalty, often after inadequate trials in a highly racialized legal system; for the many Iraqi civilians killed by the US invasion of that country and its consequences, and all those killed by the Iraqi insurgency; for all those around the world whose labour is exploited to satisfy the consumerism and economic greed of the developed world, for those on coffee plantations, in prison factories in China, on assembly lines in the Philippines, in the maquiladoras around the world, for women working in domestic or sexual slavery, that all may be able to enjoy a decent standard of life and safe and healthy working conditions, and that we ourselves may learn to give up our excessive material desires, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, hear our prayer