

Lenten Prayer Service 2020



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Please use this prayer service during the
holy season of Lent.
(once or multiple times as you wish)

Sisters of the Most Precious Blood, O'Fallon, Missouri
Immigrant and Refugee Committee
www.cpps-ofallon.org

Song: This is My Song

Melody: Finlandia



1. This is my song, O God of all the na - tions,
2. My coun - try's skies are blu - er than the o - cean,
3. Teach us to sing, O God of all cre - a - tion,
a song of peace for lands a - far and mine.
and sun - light beams on clo - ver - leaf and pine;
a song of hope for o - cean, sky, and pine.
This is my home, the coun - try where my heart is;
but oth - er lands have sun - light, too, and clo - ver,
Teach us to walk the way that ends di - vi - sion,
here are my hopes, my dreams, my ho - ly shrine.
and skies are ev - 'ry - where as blue as mine.
till ev - 'ry land and na - tion love en - twines.
But oth - er hearts in oth - er lands are beat - ing
So hear my song, O God of all the na - tions,
Then will all peo - ples see your glo - rious vi - sion:
with hopes and dreams as true and high as mine.
a song of peace for their land and for mine.
the world at peace, be - lov - ed and di - vine.



Oscar Alberto Martinez Ramirez and his daughter, Valeria, drowned in the Rio Grande in 2019.

MY SOUL REJOICES

Owen Alstott

Refrain



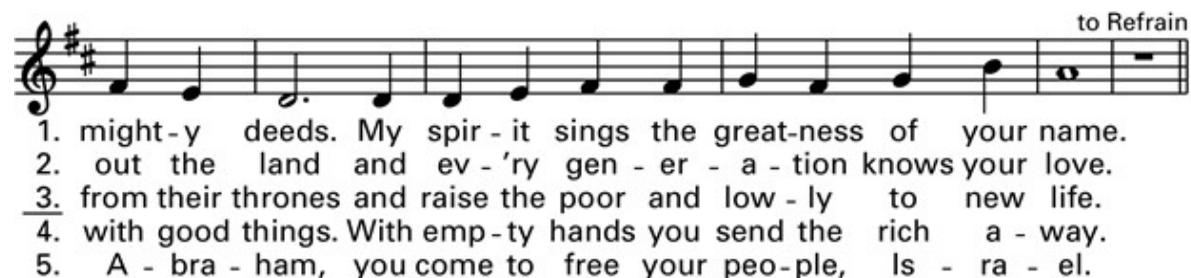
My soul re-joic-es in God, my Sav-ior. My spir-it finds its

Verses



joy in God, the liv-ing God.

1. My soul pro-claims your
2. Your mer-cy flows through-
3. You cast the might - y
4. You fill the hun - gry
5. Just as you prom - ised



to Refrain

1. might-y deeds. My spir - it sings the great-ness of your name.
2. out the land and ev - 'ry gen - er - a - tion knows your love.
3. from their thrones and raise the poor and low - ly to new life.
4. with good things. With emp - ty hands you send the rich a - way.
5. A - bra - ham, you come to free your peo-ple, Is - ra - el.

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Prayer for migrants:

Leader:

For all those who see “home” and all it means disappear behind them;
For all those who cannot see a home in the days ahead of them;
For all those who dwell in daily insecurity;
For all those who are weary and without a safe place to rest their heads;
For all families in migration, we pray. . .

All: May the image of the Holy Family fleeing oppression stay with us each night as we are blessed with returning to a home. May we also be blessed with compassion for those still weary, still seeking, still with so far to go.

Amen.

Center for Concern, 2007

Penitential Rite

Leader: Lord Jesus, you call us to welcome the members of God's family who come to our land to escape oppression, poverty, persecution, violence and war. Like your disciples, we too are filled with fear, doubt, and suspicion. We build barriers in our hearts and in our minds.

Leader: Lord Jesus, help us:

To banish fear from our hearts, that we may embrace each of your children as our own brother and sister, Lord, have mercy.

All: Lord, have mercy.

Leader: Lord Jesus, help us:

To welcome migrants and refugees with joy and generosity while responding to their many needs, Christ, have mercy.

All. Christ, have mercy.

Leader: Lord Jesus, help us:

To realize that you call all people to your holy mountain to learn the ways of peace and justice, Lord, have mercy.

All: Lord, have mercy.

Psalm 12

Come to our aid, O Beloved!

darkness seems to pervade the earth;

Where is the faith, the integrity

that once lived in the hearts

of your people?

Where is the truth, the trust

that made its home in us?

O love, cleanse us from our double talk,
Create in us new and single hearts.
Spare us from those who think,
 “Our speeches will win over all.
 Words are our weapons;
 no one can master us!”

“For the hearts of those who call to Me,
For those who cry out for wholeness,
 I shall make Myself known,
 says the Beloved;
“I shall make Myself known in their hearts.”

The promises of Love are pure,
 like silver refined in a crucible,
 like gold purified seven times.
Be our safeguard, O Blessed One,
Stay close by throughout these dark days
 where unloving hearts seem to abound.
Come to our aid, O Beloved!

Prayer: (each take a stanza)
Heart of God, full of mercy, watch over our sister and brother immigrants;
Protect them from harm even as they suffer mistreatment and humiliations on
the way.
Touch with your goodness the hearts of all who see them pass by.
Break open our hearts to embrace them and the gift that they are to our com-
munities.

Heart of God, full of compassion, give our brothers and sisters in Congress
the gift of compassion.
Open their eyes to the pain and longing of those affected by their decisions.
Give them wisdom as they struggle to repair our unjust immigration system.
Break open their hearts to embrace the dreams of our immigrant parents,
siblings, and friends.

Heart of God, full of love, we give you glory for all the blessings you have
given us.
Help us to share those blessings with others that we may all know that you
are a God of mercy, a God of compassion, a God of love.

Break open our hearts that we might embrace the challenge to build a land, a
nation, a
community where all are welcome.

Reflection:

Leader:
When every night is winter
Lord, you split no sky when you came among us,
And you rose not from the sea.
A star was seen in the heavens-but only by those who looked.
A choir of angels was heard -but only by those who listened.
No thunder, no storm, no cataclysm announced you,
Just the cry of a lowly refugee,
Turning to no one, turning to everyone,
Saying, Will you let me in?

And so when every night is winter,
And every town Bethlehem,
And every inn seems filled,
And on every ear those words are heard,
Will you let me in?
May we have eyes to see the star,
May we have ears to hear the choir,
May we have hearts that finally speak:

Yes, yes, by all means, come in.
Come in and stay. Amen.

Contemplative silence (5 minutes)