opusdei.org

The Pope's Prayer at Ground Zero

Here is the prayer of Benedict XVI when he visited Ground Zero in New York on the morning of Sunday, April 20th. "Turn to your way of love those whose hearts and minds are consumed with hatred," he prayed.

04/20/2008

O God of love, compassion, and healing,

look on us, people of many different faiths and traditions,

who gather today at this site,

the scene of incredible violence and pain.

We ask you in your goodness

to give eternal light and peace

to all who died here --

the heroic first-responders:

our fire fighters, police officers,

emergency service workers, and Port Authority personnel,

along with all the innocent men and women

who were victims of this tragedy simply because their work or service

brought them here on September 11, 2001.

We ask you, in your compassion to bring healing to those

who, because of their presence here that day,

suffer from injuries and illness.

Heal, too, the pain of still-grieving families

and all who lost loved ones in this tragedy.

Give them strength to continue their lives with courage and hope.

We are mindful as well

of those who suffered death, injury, and loss

on the same day at the Pentagon and in Shanksville, Pennsylvania.

Our hearts are one with theirs

as our prayer embraces their pain and suffering.

God of peace, bring your peace to our violent world:

peace in the hearts of all men and women

and peace among the nations of the earth.

Turn to your way of love

those whose hearts and minds

are consumed with hatred.

God of understanding,

overwhelmed by the magnitude of this tragedy,

we seek your light and guidance as we confront such terrible events.

Grant that those whose lives were spared

may live so that the lives lost here may not have been lost in vain.

Comfort and console us,
strengthen us in hope,
and give us the wisdom and courage
to work tirelessly for a world
where true peace and love reign
among nations and in the hearts of
all.

© Copyright 2008 -- Libreria Editrice Vaticana

.....

pdf | document generated automatically from https://opusdei.org/

en-us/article/the-popes-prayer-atground-zero/ (11/20/2025)