



Current Issues in Prayer

October 2025

Welcome! The Pope invites people of good will to come together and pray **that believers in different religious traditions might work together to defend and promote peace, justice and human fraternity.**



Getting started:

I find a quiet spot and I ask the Lord that I may become aware of His call for me to collaborate with others.



Short story:

A man rang the bell at the door of the Missionaries of Charity to ask them to help a Hindu family with eight children who were starving. Immediately, Mother Theresa took a bag of rice and went to visit them. She was deeply touched by the glint in the children's eyes as she gave their mother the rice. The woman proceeded to divide the rice into two portions and asked Mother Theresa to excuse her for a moment. She went out with half the rice and went to the hovel of her neighbour: a Muslim woman also with a famished family.

Mother Theresa was deeply moved by this. Here was a woman with a starving large family who thought of her neighbour's needs too. This woman, in all her poverty, was not closed off in her own predicament, but was still courageously open to 'the other'. She also

ignored the fact that they belonged to different religions. Peace, justice, and human compassion go beyond religion, appearance, etc. Little gestures of great significance go a long way to create a more humane society.



Time to reflect:

In the world, apart from physical hunger, many persons are experiencing a hunger for love and hope. What is my outlook on those who are different from me? Am I truly open to them? Is my treatment of others still controlled by who they happen to be? Am I willing to share my love with them?



Let us pray:

Lord, all of us are your sons and daughters, but oftentimes, our outlook changes according to our prejudice. Grant us that we may see with your gaze. May we actively contribute in small but very significant ways to goodness and kindness.



Inspiration:

It is not necessary to teach, heal, or make others better; it is only necessary to live among them, sharing their human condition, and being present for them with love.

Charles de Foucauld



Hands on:

If there are persons of different cultures or religions living in my neighbourhood, my place of work, my school, etc., let me be the one to reach out. And may I have compassion on those who are 'foreign' and different to me.