



Current Issues in Prayer

March 2026

Welcome! The Pope invites people of good will to come together and pray **that nations move toward effective disarmament, particularly nuclear disarmament, and that world leaders choose the path of dialogue and diplomacy instead of violence.**



Getting started:

I find some quiet space to feel the peace of God's loving presence.



Short story:

One of the most distressing movies I ever watched was Schindler's list - a film that has many disturbing images of people suffering and dying in labour camps during World War II. It is also a movie of immense power and deep sincerity. One



particular scene remains stuck in my mind years after having watched the movie. Oskar Schindler - an influential industrialist who discreetly saved many civilian lives - challenges a Nazi army general who was about to shoot an innocent worker. Oskar stops the General from shooting with this deep reflection: Power - is when we have every justification to kill, and we don't.

This is the challenge for our humanity. Weaponry gives us the power to inflict suffering, harm and commit murder and genocide. Nuclear weapons in the hands of powerful countries have the faculty to destroy the very existence of life and of the planet. In Schindler's own words, we show power not by pressing the button or being at the forefront of weapon technology, but by collective and effective disarmament, dialogue and diplomacy. Strength and power is when the dominant states deliberately choose not to use weapons against each other and instead choose peace over war and life over death.



Time to reflect:

We are led to believe that we need weapons to keep us safe. But can true safety be built on the edge of a blade, or in the shadow of a missile? Is peace ever real when it is enforced by fear? True peace is not the absence of war, but the presence of justice, dignity, and mutual respect. It is born when enemies become neighbours, and when dialogue replaces domination.



Let us pray:

O Lord, we lift our hearts to You in sorrow for a world burdened by weapons of war, where fear rules over hope, and violence threatens innocent lives. We ask You to turn the hearts of those who profit from conflict toward compassion and wisdom. Let the hands that once built weapons now build bridges, homes, and harmony. Amen.



Inspiration:

The world is over-armed and peace is under-funded.

Ban Ki-moon (Former Secretary-General of the United Nations)



Hands on:

Disarmament and world peace can feel like huge, global issues that are out of reach. However, you can make a difference, especially when you act with intention, collaborate with others, and raise awareness. Join and support Peace organisations; read about disarmament and start conversations to make those around you aware. Ultimately, live peacefully and promote a culture of nonviolence.