

Pastoral Prayer  
September 25, 2022

O God who calls us to change the world,

There is so much around this globe that calls for our response. Hurricanes have struck Puerto Rico and Canada; another is due to make landfall in Florida. A typhoon has come ashore in the Philippines. These powers of nature overwhelm our human capacities, O God. Protect those beneath the storm.

But also be with your people as they respond, as they bring aid to Puerto Rico and the other storm-ravaged places in the world. Inspire our wisdom and our generosity. May the sufferers be surprised at the number and the skill of the hands extended to them in aid.

We pray for those subjected to injustice, O God, from the daily strains of casual prejudice to the ultimate injustices of detention, death, and war. We pray for the end of armed conflict and we pray that they end with better days ahead, not the enshrinement of domination and tyranny.

We pray for ourselves, O God, for the things that afflict us and that keep us from living as you would have us live. Bring us healing for our injuries and illnesses, clarity when our minds are fogged, and energy when we get weary. We have chosen hope, O God, and as we pray for your aid in this unsettled present, we look to a brighter future. May our efforts and yours contribute successfully to that more blessed day, in which all the world's peoples can embrace one another in peace and harmony and praise your name.

Bless us in our work, we ask, in Jesus' name.

Amen.