



Quarterly Pax Mass
 June 20, 2024 // #PaxMass
 Torture Awareness Month
 5:00 Pacific / 6:00 Mountain / 7:00 Central / 8:00 PM Eastern



Opening song: [Wade in the water](#)

Welcome:

Judy Coode, Pax Christi USA communications director

Andrea Barron, Torture Abolition and Survivors Support Coalition

Ana Grande, Program for Torture Victims

Presider: Fr. Fred Thelen, Pax Christi Michigan, Pax Christi USA National Council

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Greeting - *We celebrate this Mass asking for the intercession of Sr. Dianna Ortiz, OSU, Pax Christi USA Teacher of Peace and founder of TASSC*

Penitential/ Mercy rite

Opening prayer

First reading: Sirach 48: 1-14

Reader: *Ana Grande, Program for Torture Victims (Los Angeles, CA)*

Like a fire there appeared the prophet Elijah
 whose words were as a flaming furnace.
 Their staff of bread he shattered,
 in his zeal he reduced them to straits;
 By the God's word he shut up the heavens
 and three times brought down fire.
 How awesome are you, Elijah, in your wondrous deeds!
 Whose glory is equal to yours?
 You brought a dead person back to life
 from the nether world, by the will of God.
 You sent rulers down to destruction,
 and easily broke their power into pieces.
 You brought down nobles, from their beds of sickness.
 You heard threats at Sinai,
 at Horeb avenging judgments.
 You anointed rulers who should inflict vengeance,
 and a prophet as your successor.
 You were taken aloft in a whirlwind of fire,
 in a chariot with fiery horses.
 You were destined, it is written, in time to come

to put an end to wrath before the day of our God,
 To turn back the hearts of parents toward their children,
 and to re-establish the tribes of Jacob.
 Blessed is the one who shall have seen you
 And who falls asleep in your friendship.
 For we live only in our life,
 but after death our name will not be such.
 O Elijah, enveloped in the whirlwind!
 Then Elisha, filled with the twofold portion of his spirit,
 wrought many marvels by his mere word.
 During his lifetime he feared no one,
 nor was anyone able to intimidate his will.
 Nothing was beyond his power;
 beneath him flesh was brought back into life.
 In life he performed wonders,
 and after death, marvelous deeds.

The Word of God.

All: Thanks be to God.

Responsorial psalm: Psalm 97: 1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7

Reader: *Iyana Turner, Pax Christi USA Staff*

R. (12a) Rejoice in our God, you who are just!

Our God reigns; let the earth rejoice;
 let the many isles be glad.
 Clouds and darkness are round about,
 justice and judgment are the foundation of God's throne.

R. Rejoice in our God, you who are just!

Fire goes before God
 and consumes foes all around.
 God's lightnings illumine the world;
 the earth sees and trembles.

R. Rejoice in our God, you who are just!

The mountains melt like wax before God,
 before the ruler of all the earth.
 The heavens proclaim God's justice,
 and all peoples see God's glory.

R. Rejoice in our God, you who are just!

All who worship graven things are put to shame,
 who glory in the things of nought;
 all gods are prostrate before our God.

R. Rejoice in our God, you who are just!

Gospel acclamation: Romans 8:15BC

Alleluia!

You have received a spirit of adoption as [children] through which we cry: Abba!

Alleluia!

Gospel: Matthew 6:7–15

Reader: *Fr. Fred Thelen, Pax Christi Michigan, Pax Christi National Council*

A reading from the Gospel according to Matthew.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Jesus said to his disciples:

“In praying, do not babble like the pagans,
who think that they will be heard because of their many words.
Do not be like them.
Your Abba knows what you need before you ask.

“This is how you are to pray:

‘Our Father, Our Mother who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name,
thy Kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.’

“If you forgive others their transgressions,
your heavenly Abba will forgive you.
But if you do not forgive others,
neither will your Abba forgive your transgressions.”

The Gospel of our God.

ALL: Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.

Homily: Fr. Fred Thelen

[PLEASE TYPE YOUR INTENTIONS IN THE CHAT]



Prayers of the Faithful

Reader: *Johnny Zokovitch, Pax Christi USA Staff*

Some intentions are from the Eucharistic Liturgy for Gospel Nonviolence (AUSCP), adapted

Our response is: **God of peace, hear our prayer.**

Reader: For our Holy Father, Pope Francis, that we may hear and respond to his call for Gospel nonviolence in our church, in our culture, and in our world, let us pray to God.

All: God of peace, hear our prayer.

Reader: For our political and religious leaders, that they will strive to overcome systemic injustice by working for fair education, adequate housing, equal opportunities for employment, and abolishing nuclear weapons, let us pray to God.

All: God of peace, hear our prayer.

Reader: For an end to all forms of violence from racism, homophobia, misogyny, militarism, and other systemic structures of violence. And for a better appreciation of how our words and actions – or even our silence – can impact our communities, let us pray to God.

All: God of peace, hear our prayer.

Reader: We pray for all who have experienced the suffering, pain, and humiliation of torture: those who have been hurt, lost their loved ones or lost their sense of security. Be for them a steady comfort and safe resting place.

All: God of peace, hear our prayer.

Reader: Soften the hearts and steady the minds of those who would do violence to others. May hate be replaced with love, violence with peace and darkness with your light.

All: God of peace, hear our prayer.

Reader: For all members of Pax Christi USA who are now in the great cloud of witnesses, especially Sr. Dianna Ortiz, torture survivor, Teacher of Peace, and founder of the Torture Abolition and Survivors Support Coalition. We also pray for those who have recently passed, including Rev. John P. Szura, OSA, PC Will County in Illinois and Augustinian representative to the UN; our Bishop President Emeritus Tom Gumbleton, Roger Stanley, Fr. Frank Zielinski, Jeremy Smith ...

All: God of peace, hear our prayer.

closing with:

For these and all the intentions on our hearts tonight, let us pray to the Lord.

All: God of peace, hear our prayer.

Liturgy of the Eucharist

Invitation to Prayer

Prayer over the Offerings

Fr. Fred. The Lord be with you.

All: And with your spirit.

Fr. Fred. Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them up to the Lord.

Fr. Fred. Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All: It is right and just.

Preface

All: Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of hosts.

Heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

Eucharistic Prayer

Mystery of Faith: Lord, by your cross and resurrection, you have set us free. You are the Savior of the World

Doxology

Through Christ, with Christ, and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor is yours, almighty Father, forever and ever.

All: Amen

The Lord's Prayer

Sign of peace: We invite you to extend a sign of peace through the screen to all gathered!



Lamb of God

COMMUNION RITE & Communion

In lieu of a communion song, we pray for all victims of torture as we pray Jesus, Our Tortured Brother Today, written by Sr. Dianna Ortiz, OSU.

Jesus, Our Tortured Brother Today Prayer

Stephen Niamke, Pax Christi USA Staff and Fernanda Avenando-Gomez, Pax Christi USA Intern

Stephen: Jesus, our Tortured Brother,

In this world, so many are forced to walk your path today-

the suffering and pain, the humiliation, sense of betrayal and abandonment,
for those with power, the Romans of today, continue to condemn others to modern crosses.

You said what was done to the least of these was done to you and so each day, You are tortured anew.

Fernanda: Jesus our Guardian of the Wounded and Tortured,
Bid us to look into the secret prisons - the unmarked graves - the hearts and minds of torture survivors,
Bid us to wipe the tears of the families of those whose decapitated bodies were cast into the open sea,
Bid us to embrace the open wounds of the tortured.

Stephen: Jesus, Guiding Spirit,
Teach us to be in solidarity with those who hang from these crosses,
Call out to those who torture, "Know the evil you have done and repent."
Call out to the rest of us, "What meaning does love have if you allow torture to continue unopposed?"

Fernanda: In the name of all the tortured of the world, give us the
strength, give us the courage, give us the will to bring this
horror to an end, in the name of love, justice and the God of us all. Amen.

Prayer after Communion

All: Thanks be to God.

Goodwill offering

Announcements

- PSA
- **Torture Awareness Month Prayer** - Prayer card available in Pax Christi USA shop

Closing song: [Pescador de hombres](#)

The Zoom room will remain open for a short period of time for greetings.

