

Let us begin this prayer by asking God to come in all those places in our hearts, our communities, our families, our world, that resemble a valley of withered bones: devoid of life so deeply and for such a long time that it is hard to hope that anything can change.

Let us cry out to the One who can bring life into this land of death.

Mary - the woman of an open ear

Together with Mary, Our Lady of Sorrows, who always listens to the voice of the Holy Spirit, we bring to prayer hopes and sufferings: our own, those of our loved ones, of our neighbours, of our countries, and of the world.

We offer them in this encounter with God, we enter into relationship with Him wholeheartedly, to meet Him who welcomes us and renews in us the desire to share the Love of His Heart:

In prayer we come to Him with everything that touches our life, with the sufferings and hopes of humanity. We learn to remain in silence and poverty of heart before Him. In the free gift of ourselves we learn to adore and to abide in His love.

(The Constitutions of Sacred Heart Society of 1982, § 20)

The group Room for More from Ukraine, sings: "Оживи", meaning "Revive [us]!". Let us listen to their voices and join in their call: <u>Click here.</u>



You have to stop and receive God's Love so you can listen. Allow Jesus to fill you with grace, that is, with His loving presence. Receive, so that you can experience that "the Lord is with you" and open yourself to His invitation. What is He whispering to your heart today?

Prophesy! Out of the four winds come, O Spirit, to revive hope in us!

The word of the Lord is able to reignite the fire of God's Spirit within us. Where we see only the dry bones- our wounds, our sins- there we need to invite the One who comforts and revives hope. God Himself invites us to do this because, as the Source of Life, He desires to bring us back to life and gradually transform us.

The Spirit of Jesus offers us the gift of transformation of heart, but it is not for us only. Authentic "transformation is the fruit of the Encounter" ("Life Unfolding..."), which brings us out of ourselves and towards the others. Love always sets us in motion because it desires to be known and loved. Listening to the people we live with invites us to pray and to care for each other with hope, gentleness, and strength, so that we learn from one another, encourage, forgive, console, give courage to choose life.

Do you call for the Holy Spirit in your daily life? Which of your relationships, what part of your reality invites you to cry out to God's Spirit and revive hope?

"I will bring you out of your graves, my people, and I will lead you...".

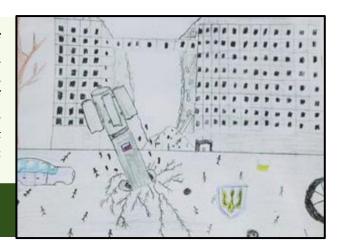


God, who gives us His Spirit, is not only the Reviver and Deliverer, but also the Guide and the Friend - accompanying us on the journey on which He invites us. He wants us to work with Him in transformation of the hearts and of the world, that is, to animate hope in human relationships, the courage to forgive, the joy of shared commitment, the meaning of life, mindfulness to the gifts of daily life, small gestures of tenderness and care for the people entrusted to us and for the Earth.

What call kindles and enlivens your heart? How do you recognise the God who accompanies you in your journey? What does he invite you to do?

May the memory of God's guidance and the power of the Holy Spirit give hope to all those who are now in great need of this faith in God's protection and intervention. We pray particularly for the people of Ukraine, fighting for freedom in their homeland, most of all for the children, who, unable to tell what they experienced in words, show it in their drawings:

Image from the Exhibition: "Mummy, I don't want war! 1939-1945 Poland / 2022 Ukraine"



Let us pray: Come Spirit of the Living God, Light of our souls, Make us attentive to your inspirations. Come, Spirit of the Creator, to the world that is your body, Make your hope come alive in it. Come, Comforter Spirit, unite us to your Heart, make us bear your compassion. Amen.

At the end of this prayer, let us call to God to revive love in all hearts and send His Spirit to us with the song of Lauren Daigle: "Come Alive (Dry Bones)"

