

## 8 candles – Lighting Prayers for Peace

**Voice 1:** Let us light a candle for tolerance, and pray for a unity that respects diversity and enhances the well-being of all the inhabitants of Canada and of the world. Let us pray for a society where it will be easier to live virtuously, where joy will be the lot of many, where all children will be surrounded with love, where prejudice will have no place and where God will be more evident to all.

**All:** Come, Lord, and grant us peace.

**Voice 2:** Let us light a candle for justice, and pray for the eradication of poverty and want everywhere in Canada and the world, but especially among children and the First Nations. Let us pray for our young people, that they may find solid mentors, leading them to creative and satisfying lives.

**All:** Come, Lord, and grant us peace.

**Voice 3:** Let us light a candle for peace, and pray for all victims and peace makers, for marginalized people, for the weak and defenseless, including immigrants and refugees, that they be welcomed to take their rightful place within society. Let us pray for tolerance and peace, justice and forgiveness, that we may find lasting solutions to terrorism and crime.

**All:** Come, Lord, and grant us peace.

**Voice 4:** Let us light a candle for love and forgiveness, and pray for those whose lives give birth to evil and who pervert the truth and turn to violence. Let us pray for those who, as a result, now doubt the power of love and goodness, those lost in grief and all who have been robbed of hope or security. Let us pray for greater understanding between Christians, Muslims and Jews, that solidarity among all people of good will may promote harmony and tolerance and unite all people in the ways of justice and peace.

**All:** Come, Lord, and grant us peace.

**Voice 5:** Let us light a candle for faith, and pray for a clearer sense of the dignity and value of each human person and the sanctity of marriage. Let us pray for all scientists, technicians and health professionals, that respect for life be foremost in their endeavours to bring the best of science to the care they exercise, and that their work will be profitable for all segments of society and for the good of the whole planet.

**All:** Come, Lord, and grant us peace.

**Voice 6:** Let us light a candle for goodness and virtue, and pray for our government leaders that they may have the courage and wisdom always to decide what is best for the common good. Let us pray for ourselves and for all religious leaders that we may always speak what is true and good and live accordingly.

**All:** Come, Lord, and grant us peace.

**Voice 7:** Let us light a candle in thanksgiving, and pray for all who are engaged in volunteer work, that it may lead them to deep spiritual peace. Let us pray for our parishes and families, for the sick and dying and for all Christians, that we may be true *companions on the journey*.

**All:** Come, Lord, and grant us peace.

**Voice 8:** Let us light a candle for hope, and pray for God's blessing upon each one and all, that we may have a life-filled, peaceful League year. Let us pray for those who have died this past year, especially the victims of terrorism and natural disasters and for those who gave their lives in acts of heroism and martyrdom; that they may behold God face-to-face.

**All:** Come, Lord, and grant us peace.