

## Order of Blessing of a Victim of Crime or Oppression

Throughout history God has manifested his love and care for those who have suffered from violence, hatred and oppression. We commend those who have suffered from gun violence and any type of violence to the healing mercy of God who binds up all our wounds and enfolds us in his gentle care

### The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew

And do not be afraid of those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul; rather, be afraid of the one who can destroy both soul and body in Gehenna. Are not two sparrows sold for a small coin? Yet not one of them falls to the ground without your Father's knowledge. Even all the hairs of your head are counted. So do not be afraid; you are worth more than many sparrows. Everyone who acknowledges me before others I will acknowledge before my heavenly Father.

### Psalm 140

Deliver me, O LORD, from evil men; preserve me from violent men, From those who devise evil in their hearts, and stir up wars every day. The Lord is my strength and my salvation.

Save me, O LORD, from the hands of the wicked; preserve me from violent men Who plan to trip up my feet--the proud who have hidden a trap for me; They have spread cords for a net; by the wayside they have laid snares for me. The Lord is my strength and my salvation.

Grant not, O LORD, the desires of the wicked; further not their plans. Those who surround me lift up their heads; may the mischief which they threaten overwhelm them. The Lord is my strength and my salvation.

I know that the LORD renders justice to the afflicted, judgment to the poor. Surely the just shall give thanks to your name; the upright shall dwell in your presence. The Lord is my strength and my salvation.

### Prayers of the Faithful

For all who are victims of crime /oppression, we pray to the Lord. R. Deliver us from evil, O Lord.  
For an end to all acts of violence and hatred, we pray to the Lord. R. Deliver us from evil, O Lord.  
For those who harm others, that they may change their lives and turn to God, we pray to the Lord. R. Deliver us from evil, O Lord.

### Closing Prayers

Our Father . . .

Lord God, your own Son was delivered into the hands of the wicked, yet he prayed for his persecutors and overcame hatred with the blood of the cross. Relieve the suffering of N.; grant him /her peace of mind and a renewed faith in your protection and care. Protect us all from the violence of others, keep us safe from the weapons of hate, and restore to us tranquility and peace. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen

*I invite you to join with me on Fridays throughout 2017 to pray for peace. When good people come together in prayer wonderful things happen.*

*Fr. Mosley, Our Lady of Perpetual Help*