



## *Diocese of Rockford*

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Office of the Bishop

September 7, 2016

Dear Monsignor/Father,

As we are all aware, our society is increasingly divided and polarized. This past summer, social tensions led to incidents of violence that resulted in the targeting of law enforcement officials. The racial divisions in our society also came under increased scrutiny.

In response to these incidents that have exacerbated our societal divisions, Archbishop Joseph Kurtz, President of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, has on behalf of the Bishops of the United States called for a National Day of Prayer for Peace in our Communities.

Archbishop Kurtz asked that we join in that prayer intention on Friday, September 9. However, in view of the funeral of our beloved Bishop Thomas Doran scheduled for that day, I ask that we join in that National Day of Prayer over the weekend of September 17-18.

We are all asked to offer an Our Father, a Hail Mary and a Glory Be to the Father for that intention. Additionally, attached please find a prayer issued by the USCCB for this intention. I ask that it be recited at the end of the Prayers of the Faithful at all Masses on that weekend. I would ask as well that copies of that prayer be made available especially in places where there is perpetual Eucharistic adoration.

Thank you for your priestly service to the faithful of the Diocese of Rockford. Thank you also for joining in this important prayer initiative for our country.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

+ *David J. Malloy*

Most Reverend David J. Malloy  
Bishop of Rockford