WEEK OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY 2012 ADDITIONAL MATERIAL

LITURGY/PRAYERS FOR THE 8 DAYS

THEME: We will all be changed by the victory of our Lord Jesus Christ (1 Cor 15: 51-58)

FROM THE INTERNATIONAL RESOURCE - *Jointly prepared and published by:* The Pontifical Council for Promoting Christian Unity and The Commission on Faith and Order of the World Council of Churches **NOTE:** The headings for the days are from the international resource; they are similar to the British and Irish ones but not exactly the same.

DAY I The Serving Victor

- L Lord, the disobedience of Adam and Eve brought suffering and death to us, and the family of man was wounded and torn apart. Have mercy on us!
- **C** Have mercy on us!
- L Christ, we hardened our hearts when You taught us through the servants of Your word. Have mercy on us!
- **C** Have mercy on us!
- L Lord, You know that we have not served You in our brothers and sisters. Have mercy on us!
- **C** Have mercy on us!
- L May God Almighty have mercy on us and, forgiving our sins, lead us to eternal life.
- C Amen.

DAY II

Changed through patient waiting for the Lord

- L Lord, we pray to You.
 - For the gift of looking at our life in the light of Your wisdom, we ask You!
- **C** Hear us, O Lord!
- L For the divine gift of patience in situations when human justice fails, we ask You!
- **C** Hear us, O Lord!
- L For the ability to pray and wait in those situations where only Your gift can meet our need, we ask You!
- **C** Hear us, O Lord!
- L Hear us as we call, O God, and grant that we may discern the fullness of Your justice, through Christ, our Lord.
- C Amen.

DAY III

Changed by the Suffering Servant

- L The cross is the sign of victory. And so we call: we worship You, O Lord!
- **C** We worship You, O Lord!
- L For Your cross the cathedral of truth and the court of mercy.
- **C** We worship You, O Lord!
- L For your cross the tree of life and the throne of grace.
- **C** We worship You, O Lord!
- L For your cross the sign of compassion and the sign of hope.
- **C** We worship You, O Lord!

- L Lord, You died on the cross to *gather into one the dispersed children of God*. May the contemplation of Your cross transform our understanding of suffering, for You live and reign forever and ever.
- C Amen.

DAY IV Changed by the Lord's victory over evil

- L The arrival of the Kingdom of God is the defeat of the kingdom of Satan. Jesus, when He defeats the tempter in the desert, and frees people from the power of evil spirits, anticipates the great victory of the Hour of His Passion. The ruler of this world is cast away. In the last request of the Lord's Prayer *But deliver us from evil* we pray to God for Him to reveal the victory already won by Christ. In the spirit of this request, we call: Save us, O Lord!
- **C** Save us, O Lord!
- L From all evil
- **C** Save us, O Lord!
- L From every sin
- C Save us, O Lord!
- L From Satan's traps
- **C** Save us, O Lord!
- L From hatred and all ill will
- **C** Save us, O Lord!
- L From eternal death
- **C** Save us, O Lord!
- L Save us, O Lord, from all evil, and support us in Your mercy, You who live and reign forever and ever.
- C Amen.

DAY V Changed by the peace of the Risen Lord

- L Let us pray to the risen Lord for Christians and all people on earth: Grant us Your peace!
- **C** Grant us Your peace!
- L Grant the blessing of peace to the nations.
- **C** Grant us Your peace!
- L Sustain those who are working for the visible unity of your church.
- **C** Grant us Your peace!
- L Look upon those whom You have called to shepherd Your flock.
- **C** Grant us Your peace!
- L Strengthen the love between spouses.
- **C** Grant us Your peace!
- L Bring reconciliation within families, neighborhoods and societies.
- **C** Grant us Your peace!
- L ord, stand in our midst and grant us unity and peace, You who live and reign forever and ever.
- C Amen.

DAY VI Changed by God's Steadfast Love

L - To Him who alone is worthy of faith, we call: Amen – I believe!

- \mathbf{C} Amen I believe!
- L In the one God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
- \mathbf{C} Amen I believe!
- L In the Son of God, who became a man.
- \mathbf{C} Amen I believe!
- L In His death, resurrection and ascension.
- \mathbf{C} Amen I believe!
- **L** In the gift of the Holy Spirit.
- \mathbf{C} Amen I believe!
- L In Christ's coming again in glory.
- \mathbf{C} Amen I believe!
- L That His grace is stronger than sin.
- \mathbf{C} Amen I believe!
- L That love is more powerful than hatred and death.
- \mathbf{C} Amen I believe!
- L In the resurrection of the body and life without end in the kingdom.
- **C** Amen I believe!
- L Lord, look upon the faith of Your Church in its pilgrimage through all the world, and lead Your children to see the brightness of Your majesty face to face, You who live and reign forever and ever.
- C Amen.

DAY VII Changed by the Good Shepherd

- L The Lord has not abandoned us. In all life's experiences he guides us with rod and staff. He is our Good Shepherd. That is why we say: we give you thanks, Lord!
- **C** We give you thanks, Lord!
- L For life and all gifts with which You have strengthened us
- **C** We give you thanks, Lord!
- L For the gift of Your Word
- **C** We give you thanks, Lord!
- L For perseverance in faith
- C We give you thanks, Lord!
- L For credible witnesses of Your Gospel
- **C** We give you thanks, Lord!
- L For all things which we cannot count or fail to realise
- **C** We give you thanks, Lord!
- L Thank You, Lord, for all gifts You have given us, so that we might not stop on the way or weaken in our spiritual struggle, You who live and reign forever and ever.
- C Amen.

DAY VIII United in the Reign of Christ

- L From an ancient homily:
 - The heavenly throne is already prepared, servants are waiting in attendance, the nuptial chamber has been erected, the food is ready, the eternal living place adorned, eternal treasures have been opened, and the Kingdom of Heaven, prepared since the creation of the world, is already open.
- **P** Desiring greatly to abide with Christ, let us worship Him and say: Be exalted forever!
- **C** Be exalted forever!

- L Lord of time and eternity
- **C** Be exalted forever!
- L The firstborn from the dead
- **C** Be exalted forever!
- L Who holds the keys of death and hell
- **C** Be exalted forever!
- L Who are Lord of those who rule and King of those who reign.
- **C** Be exalted forever!
- L Who were, who are and who will come.
- C Be exalted forever! Amen

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OUR FATHER

