

Prayer Guide for 12 to 18 March

"Wear your ashes as a proud witness to your belief in Christ, answer any questions that come, and you just might inspire someone else to start his or her own faith journey." – J. Beckmann

Makoto Fujimura, the Japanese American artist, says "Jesus is the God of Ground Zero. In grief, he is our consolation. Theologically, the whole of earth is Ground Zero. We live in the fallen world in which every good, true and beautiful reality is quickly idolized to something selfish, greedy and destructive. Christ came to redeem this path to self-destruction by taking on all of our "pride of the flesh" on the Cross. Christ is the God of Ground Zero."



We see our fallen world all around us. Church attendance is down, drug cartels are rampant, politicians are corrupt, gangsters rule in the townships. On the international stage, wars are fought for the flimsiest of excuses, causing massive refugee crises.

As we spend time in prayer this week, remember

- † The victims in the Ukrainian and Gaza wars, their families and loved ones. The leaders of the countries, that they may lay down arms and seek peace. The western nations as they deliberate actions to stop the war.
- † The people living on the Cape Flats, trying to survive the gang warfare, where innocent children and others are killed or maimed by gunfire. The police and organisations trying to contain the actions of the gangsters. Churches who try to reach out to the gangsters and comfort the survivors of attacks.
- † Our leaders as they govern our country. Pray that they may fight the endemic corruption and not succumb to temptation to enrich themselves instead of using allotted funds to alleviate poverty.
- † Our upcoming elections.
- † Christ, our Lord, on the road to Jerusalem, preparing himself for the events before him. In your prayers, try to place yourself in his mind as he faces Jerusalem.

