



THE COVENTRY LITANY OF RECONCILIATION

english / afrikaans

Provost Richard Howard put the words "FATHER FORGIVE" on the wall behind the charred cross in the ruins of the destroyed cathedral in 1948, not "Father forgive Them", because we all have sinned and fallen short of the glory of God. (Rom 3,23)

These words moved generations of people and are prayed in the Litany of Reconciliation every Friday at noon outside in the ruins and on many other places around the world.

The Litany of Reconciliation, based on the seven cardinal sins, was written in 1958 by Canon Joseph Poole, the first Precentor of the new Cathedral. It is a universal and timeless confession of humanity's failings, but it evokes us to approach these sins and weaknesses in the forgiveness of God's love.

Almal het gesondig en is ver van God af.

All have sinned and fallen short of the glory of God.

Die haat wat nasie van nasie, ras van ras en klas van klas skei,

The hatred which divides nation from nation, race from race, class from class,

Vader, vergewe.

Father, forgive.

Die inhalige begeertes van volke en nasies om te besit wat nie aan hulle behoort nie,

The covetous desires of people and nations to possess what is not their own,

Vader, vergewe.

Father, forgive.

Die hebsug wat die hande-arbeid van mense uitbuit en die aarde verwoes,

The greed which exploits the work of human hands and lays waste the earth,

Vader, vergewe.

Father, forgive.

Ons afguns ten opsigte van die welvaart en geluk van andere,

Our envy of the welfare and happiness of others,

Vader, vergewe.

Father, forgive.

Ons afsydigheid ten opsigte van die lot van gevangenes, haweloses en vlugteling,

Our indifference to the plight of the imprisoned, the homeless, the refugee,

Vader, vergewe.

Father, forgive.

Die wellus wat die liggame van mans, vrouens en kinders onteer,

The lust which dishonours the bodies of men, women and children,

Vader, vergewe.

Father, forgive.

Die hoogmoed wat ons op onself laat vertrou in plaas van op God,

The pride which leads us to trust in ourselves and not in God,

Vader, vergewe.

Father, forgive.

Wees goedgesind en hartlik teenoor mekaar, en vergewe mekaar soos God julle ook in Christus vergewe het.

Be kind to one another, tender hearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you.