

National Crime Victims' Rights Week and Restorative Justice

PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL

TO ALL PARISHES: Please use these prayer petitions in Masses during April 19-25, 2015.

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R: Visit and touch our hurting communities with your healing hand, O Lord.

- 1.) That the Holy Spirit may move us to respond to the violence that has taken the lives of so many people and left grieving family members in need of our support – *We pray to the Lord.*
- 2.) That the Holy Spirit will sustain those who offer their services to victims of crime after such a great loss and deep sorrow – *We pray to the Lord.*
- 3.) That the Holy Spirit may provoke true repentance in the lives those who commit violence and lead them to confess their crimes, accept the consequences of their actions, and work to repair the harm done – *We pray to the Lord.*
- 4.) That the Holy Spirit will encourage those responsible for our criminal justice system to allow offenders and victims to communicate and, with the assistance of church and professional mediation, bring healing, understanding, and justice to all the people involved – *We pray to the Lord.*
- 5.) That the Holy Spirit may inspire city officials, law enforcement agencies and community leaders to prevent violence in the future by eliminating its causes in neglected communities and creating healthy alternatives – *We pray to the Lord.*