

A prayer
August 2006

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A member of St. John's was moved to write the following prayer in response to Bishop Ronald Warren's decision.

Some days are hard God,
Like today,
When cherished hopes seem to fade,
And sacred doors seem to close.
Doors that were once open -
Open at least to discussion,
To words of grace
Spoken by compassionate hearts.

And those fading hopes -
Well, they were only hopes for longings to be
heard,
For your words of love to be fulfilled,
For justice to win the day,
This one special time,
That your loving kingdom may come here,
Right here.
Right now.

I'm sure you heard our cries.
I'm sure you saw words of love in emails written
And yet,
There's always a "yet",
(Thank heavens for "yet"s)
I know that today's not the last day in my calendar.
And I know that the days ahead
Will bring the gathering of your wet-cheeked people.
Yes, we who welcome,
We who love,
We who live by the grace of your mysterious spirit.
And you'll teach us how to love even when its hard,
To love in spite of,
To love in the midst of ,
And to love through the pain -
Even pain that feels so crippling.

So, can you lend a hand God?
'Cause during the weeks to come,
We might lose sight of the simple power of the spirit,

We might lose sight of the importance of tender love,
And we might not be able to see clearly
That brilliant light that we know WILL overcome the darkness.

So be with us now.
Be with me
As I light this candle during these days.
May it fill my heart with the reminder
Even tonight,
And through all the tomorrows to come,
That the light, your light, will indeed overcome the darkness.
Inch by inch, corner by corner, and room by room.

With this simple practice,
I pray that your light fill us with hope again.
Fill us with compassion,
And fill us with Your spirit that speaks the truth in love.
Love for all your people.

Now help us rest,
And wake with the light of day,
Reminding us that the light shall indeed overcome the darkness -
Justice will reign,
And all shall be well.
All shall indeed be well.

Amen.