

Consecration of Russia and Ukraine

On **Friday, March 25**, the Solemnity of the Annunciation of the **Blessed Virgin Mary**, Pope Francis will consecrate Russia and Ukraine to the Immaculate Heart of Mary during a service in St. Peter's Basilica in Rome. At the same time (9:00am PDT) at Immaculate Conception Parish in Kelowna, Bishop Gregory Bittman will carry out the same act during a prayer service which will be live streamed. A link will be available at www.nelsondiocese.org as well as on the ICC website www.icckelowna.ca.

Catholic Bishops of Canada, united with the Holy Father, invite their faithful and all people around the world to participate in the novena with the following prayer. If you are not able to participate in church, please pray with your family at home. The Rosary is also a powerful prayer for peace and against evil. Please pray your Rosary daily in union with all who pray for peace:

God of peace and justice,

We pray for the people of Ukraine today.

We pray for peace and the laying down of weapons.

We pray for all those who fear for tomorrow,

That your Spirit of comfort would draw near to them.

We pray for those with power over war or peace,

For wisdom, discernment, and compassion to guide their decisions.

Above all, we pray for all Your precious children, at-risk and in fear,

That You would hold and protect them.

We pray in the name of Jesus, the Prince of Peace.

Amen.