



TO OUR LADY OF RECONCILIATION (Cardinal Eduardo F. Pironio)

Our Lady of Reconciliation:
 Virgin of fidelity and service,
 of poverty and silence,
 of the new creation by the Spirit.
 Mother of those who suffer in loneliness
 and seek in hope.
 Lady of those who return to the House
 and discover the Father and the brother.
 Virgin of Friendship and Love,
 Lady of Peace and of the Covenant.
 You gave us Jesus, "the Saviour",
 "the one who takes away the sin of the world"
 and reconciles it with the Father by his Blood.
 He who gave us the Eucharist
 and asked us to love one another.

Thank you for being like this:
 So simple and so good,
 so deep in contemplation
 and so open to the problems of others,
 so faithful a servant of the Lord.
 and so close to those of us
 who sin.

Thank you for having received us.
 For having touched our hearts
 and taught us the way back.
 For having serenaded us on the way.
 For making us feel that we are sons.
 We forget the Father who loves us
 and we have shut ourselves up in the face of
 pain,
 poverty and injustice.

Today we rejoice
 in the peace and joy of re-encounter.
 We have returned to the Lord who sets us free
 and makes us new.
 Inside we savoured his Word
 and we ate as a family
 the Bread of unity that gives life.
 From there is born for all of us
 the Spirit of Love that we lacked,
 and that thirst for true justice
 which is the root of peace
 among peoples.
 Thank you for everything,
 Mother of the Way and of Hope.

Thank you for having brought us
 reconciliation with God
 and with humanity in your Son.

Virgin of Reconciliation:
 Show us the Father every day
 and Christ who lives in our brothers and sisters.
 Help us to understand the demands
 of the Sermon on the Mount.
 May we be salt of the earth,
 light of the world,
 leaven of God for history.
 Teach us to live simply
 the fecundity of the Beatitudes.
 May we be poor and merciful,
 pure of heart and serene in the cross,
 hungers for justice and peacemakers.
 May we cry out to the world
 "God is our Father" and "every man is our
 brother".
 and "every man is our brother".
 May we take on their anxieties
 and hopes.
 May we teach men
 unbelieving and bitter men
 who trust only in science
 and in weapons,
 and live the explosive temptation
 of violence,
 that "peace is still possible
 because love is possible".

Our Lady of Reconciliation,
 image and principle of the Church :
 today we leave in your heart,
 poor, silent and available
 this pilgrim Church of Easter.
 A Church essentially missionary
 leaven and soul
 of the society in which we live,
 a Prophetic Church that is
 the proclamation that the Kingdom has already
 come.
 A Church of authentic witnesses,
 inserted in the history of mankind
 as the saving presence of the Lord,
 and as source of Peace,
 of Joy and Hope.
 Amen. May it be so.