

# INVISIBLE MONASTERY

11.2025



#### Dear friends,

This evening, we have decided to dedicate our Invisible Monastery to praying together for peace, a gift that can never be taken for granted, but must always be invoked, cherished, and built upon.

We live in times when the word "peace" risks becoming only a fragile dream, crushed by the noise of violence, hatred, and indifference. But precisely for this reason, we cannot remain silent or give up: peace is a name of God, it is the face of the Gospel, it is our deepest vocation. We have chosen a passage from the Letter to the Ephesians that invites us to look at peace as the fruit of reconciliation in Christ.

The Apostle Paul reminds us that Jesus himself "is our peace": not a peace made up of treaties or political balances, but a peace that comes from a transformed heart, capable of breaking down the walls that separate us — walls of mistrust, fear, and hostility — and building one body, one family. In this spirit, we prepare ourselves to listen to the Word.

Let us light a candle, a sign of the light that the Lord gives even in dark times. The flame we now see is fragile, like the peace we invoke, but when we guard it together, it illuminates and warms us.



SUGGESTION: place a lit candle in the center; before reading the Word, each person will light a candle from the central flame: light that multiplies without diminishing, a sign of peace that grows through sharing.



## From the Letter of Saint Paul to the Ephesians (2:13-16)

Now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ. For he is our peace; in his flesh he has made both groups into one and has broken down the dividing wall, that is, the hostility between us. He has abolished the law with its commandments and ordinances, that he might create in himself one new humanity in place of the two, thus making peace, and might reconcile both groups to God in one body through the cross, thus putting to death that hostility through it.

## Paul's words touch us deeply because they speak of a desire that dwells in every heart: to live in peace.

But peace, in the christian vision, is not only the absence of war. It is much more: it is a journey of reconciliation, an inner and communal work that asks us to break down walls, not only the visible ones but also those we build within ourselves.

The wall that Paul speaks of is not only the wall that is found between different peoples or cultures: it is the wall that arises every time when we close ourselves off to others, when we judge, when we stop seeing a brother or sister in those before us. Christ, with his cross, broke

down this wall - not with force, but with self-giving love. And what about us? We are called to do the same, to transform our small daily conflicts in families, in communities, in difficult relationships into opportunities to build bridges, to believe that peace begins with tiny but genuine gestures: a word that calms, an embrace that melts, forgiveness that frees. Peace is born in this way: when someone has the courage to be the first to forgive, to renounce revenge, to choose meekness as a path of strength.

Perhaps we cannot stop the wars in the world, but we can start with our own lives: a kinder word, a welcoming gesture, a listening silence, a step towards those who are different from us. It is from these small seeds that God makes peace grow. So, this evening, let us ask the Lord not only for peace for nations in the Holy Land, in Ukraine, in the Democratic Republic of Congo,

and in every wounded place but also for peace in our hearts, in our families, and in our communities. Let us ask to become artisans of peace, capable of sowing hope where fear reigns. For where Christ reigns, there is no longer enmity, but communion, as Paul writes: "He is our peace".

### Let us pray

Lord Jesus, you are our peace.

You have broken down the walls that separate us, you have transformed hatred into love.

Make us instruments of your reconciliation.

Renew in us, Lord, the desire for peace.

When we close ourselves in fear, open our hearts.

When we judge or defend ourselves, grant us gentleness and trust.

When it seems useless to forgive, remind us of your cross. Renew in us, Lord, the desire for peace.

Teach us to believe that every good word can rebuild, that every gesture of tenderness can save, that every encounter can become a threshold of light.

Make us, Lord, builders of peace.

And when violence seems to win, when evil cries out louder, give us the faith of the little ones and the strength of the meek, so that we may continue to hope in your Kingdom to come.

You are our peace, Lord Jesus.

Stay with us, and make us one body, one heart, one hope. Amen SOLA IN DEO SORS