Prayer for Ukraine

With rising tensions in the region and the threat of a possible Russian-Ukrainian conflict, Pope Francis established January the 26th as a day of prayer for peace in Ukraine. The Pope appealed for an end to all war and prayed that dialogue, the common good, and reconciliation would prevail. Before concluding his general audience yesterday, he said: "I would like to appeal to those with political responsibilities to do a serious examination of conscience before God, who is the God of peace and not of war, who is the father of all and not only of some, who wants us to be brothers and sisters and not enemies."

This morning, as we gather in our schools and sites, we too pray for peace, strength, and the health of all Ukrainians and their families; we pray for peace, strength, and the health of all Ukrainians that are in diaspora, and we pray for peace, strength, and the health of all Ukrainians in our school division.

Loving Father, you sent your Son into the world to redeem us by his Cross and Resurrection. Give the people of Ukraine the strength to heal their moments of stress, grief, and sorrow and remind them of your constant love, healing, and grace.

Through the intercession of our Most Blessed Mother, Mary, the Mother of God, we ask you to guide and protect the people of Ukraine, as we say: Hail Mary full of Grace, the Lord is with thee. Blessed are thou amongst women and blessed is the fruit of thy womb Jesus. Holy Mary Mother of God, pray for us sinners now and at the hour of our death. Amen.

May God's Divine Spirit look after the people of Ukraine during these trying times, and may a peaceful resolution be achieved for them and their nation. We pray this through your Son, Our Lord Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. **Amen**.

Thank you to Marta Prystasz, a teacher at St. Augustine School, for inspiring this prayer.