

February 18 – Thursday after Ash Wednesday

The Church – The People of God

God of endless love,

Ever caring, ever strong, always present, always just:

You gave your only Son to save us by the blood of the cross.

Gentle Jesus, shepherd of peace, join to your own suffering the pain of all who have been hurt in body, mind and spirit by those who betrayed that trust placed in them.

Hear the cries of our brothers and sisters who have been gravely harmed, and the cries of those who love them.

Soothe their restless hearts with hope, steady their shaken spirits with faith.

Grant them justice for their cause, enlightened by your truth.

Holy Spirit, comforter of hearts, heal your people's wounds, and transform brokenness with wholeness.

Grant us the courage and wisdom, humility and grace, to act with justice.

Breathe wisdom into our prayers and labors.

Grant that all harmed by abuse may find peace in justice.

We ask this through Christ, our Lord. AMEN.

For more information

<https://protect.archchicago.org/offices-and-services/prayer-and-penance-program>