

A Season of Prayer, Reflection, and Action for Justice after Katrina

Among the 1600 congregations of the Gamaliel Network
the week-end of March 3-5



Litany – A Six Month Observance of Katrina

- L: God of mercy, hear our prayers for all those still burdened by unimaginable losses from Hurricane Katrina and its chaotic aftermath.
- C: Hear us, O God.**
- L: God of justice, free us from weak resignation to the status quo and lead our federal government to a just rebuilding of New Orleans and other afflicted communities.
- C: Free us, O God.**
- L: God of power, move us and our nation past mere sentimentality and casual promises to the collective resolve and bold action that can restore devastated communities.
- C: Move us, O God.**
- L: God of love, teach us to share abundantly as individuals and as a nation from the abundance we have received from your hand.
- C: Teach us, O God.**
- L: God of grace, forgive us for insulating our lives from the ongoing suffering of others and for embracing normalcy instead of compassion.
- C: Forgive us, O God.**
- L: Grant that our actions may conform to your will.
- C: Amen.**

Permission is granted to use or adapt this litany in ways appropriate for your community.

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A Season of Prayer and Action for Justice after Katrina

Each day's news makes us wonder how much things have changed for those who waited long to be rescued after Katrina turned their lives upside-down.

We hear of

- whole neighborhoods where the working poor lived now empty and laying in rubble
- people with no place really to call home after six months
- and fields of trailers waiting to be delivered to people who have no homes
- delay, fraud and waste
- insured people waiting for claims to be settled so they can rebuild
- no clear plans for new life in the gulf region

We are confused that so much has been given and so little has been done. We hear the anger of our sisters and brothers whose lives are still uncertain and for whom justice seems far away.

Your faith community is invited to join us the weekend of Marcy 3-5 in remembrance and prayer for those who still seek a new beginning that reflects the values that have always guided our American democracy.

Today our congregation joins 1600 Gamaliel Congregations in a season of prayer and action. This season will extend to April 15.

We are accepting the call of the Gamaliel Network to join the faith communities of your Gamaliel Organization to reflect on the values that need to be honored if the people in the gulf region are to find new life and new participation in America's future.

As this season continues some of our members will enter into a conversation with our elected representatives regarding the values that need to guide decisions made on behalf of the storm ravaged people of the Gulf region. Value based decisions are critical months in the months ahead. The lives and livelihood of thousands hang in the balance. And the world is watching to see if America is still the kind of nation that keeps its promises to its people.

Resources for this season of Prayer and Action may be found at www.gamaliel.org

You may also sign up for Gamaliel Foundation action alerts on that page. Your endorsement of the Season of Prayer, Reflection and Action is welcome

Questions or comments? E-mail us at Info@gamaliel.org

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