

## DIOCESE OF FORT WORTH THE BISHOP'S OFFICE



## **MEMORANDUM**

**To:** Priests and Parishes

**From:** Most Reverend Michael F. Olson, Bishop of Fort Worth

**Date:** February 24, 2022

**Subject:** Prayers for Ukraine

Please ask your parishioners to pray for peace, an end to war, and for the safety of all people of Ukraine who have been traumatized by the unjust Russian invasion of their homeland.

The Holy Father, Pope Francis, has asked that "believers in a special way devote themselves intensely to prayer and fasting for peace in Ukraine" on this Ash Wednesday. Since Ash Wednesday is a day of prayer, fasting and abstinence, I ask that all Catholics in the Diocese of Fort Worth follow the Holy Father's admonition and apply these penitential actions for the intentions of peace in Ukraine.

In a special way, our prayers and solidarity are with Father Pavlo Popov and the parishioners of Saint Sophia Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church in The Colony, Texas, and with all of their loved ones living in Ukraine. May the Lord deliver them from harm and sustain their faith during this traumatic event.

Please include the following intercession in the Universal Prayer of all masses this weekend:

For peace and an end to the unjust aggression perpetrated against Ukraine and that world leaders refrain from any action or inaction that would cause even more suffering to people and foment further discord among nations discrediting international law.

Por la paz y el fin de la injusta agresión perpetrada contra Ucrania y que los líderes mundiales se abstengan de cualquier acción o inacción que cause aún más sufrimiento a las personas y fomente más discordia entre las naciones descreditando el derecho internacional.