



Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

During this time of serious illness, food insecurity, economic suffering, and civil unrest, please keep the people of Cuba in your regular prayers, and please reach out to those whom you know. Let us also hold all Cubans in the diaspora - especially the many who live, work, and minister in our diocese - in our hearts and minds in these days of uncertainty and difficulty. We pray also for the preservation of human rights and the safety of all peaceful protesters. The close relationship between our diocese and the Church of Cuba creates a natural solidarity.

In a letter to Bishop Griselda Delgado del Carpio, our Presiding Bishop writes, "Even in the face of despair, Jesus walks with us and gives us strength as we strive to serve others, preserve dialogue, and protect hope." May our eyes always be on Jesus.

*O God, you have bound us together in a common life. Help us, in the midst of our struggles for justice and truth, to confront one another without hatred or bitterness, and to work together with mutual forbearance and respect; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*

(BCP p 824)

*Merciful God, in these troubled times look with compassion upon your children in Cuba. Bless them with your guiding Spirit, that they may act with justice and mercy; nourish their souls with patience and strength, that they may endure hardship and care for one another; comfort them with a sense of your goodness, that they may find your peace in the midst of violence and fear. Through Jesus Christ our comforter. Amen.*

With every blessing,

+Peter