NRCAT | National Religious Campaign Against Torture

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PRAYER FOR THE CLOSING OF GUANTANAMO

Our God and Sustainer, you have created all people – each one of us with dignity and worth, sacred in your sight.

Help me this day and every day to hold that truth in my heart and to honor it in all I do, treating every person as your unique creation.

I pray for strength for our nation's leaders to act upon the commitment, made four years ago, to close the detention center at Guantanamo Bay. Eleven years after the arrival of the first prisoner, Guantanamo remains a prominent symbol of our nation's violation of our deepest values. I pray for the spiritual healing that our nation can experience from closing Guantanamo and putting an end to this dark and errant chapter in our nation's history.

I pray for the courage, as an individual and as a nation, to do what is right even when we experience fear and uncertainty.

I pray that, as a nation, we will work to ensure that the abuses authorized and committed in our name never happen again. These abuses included the use of torture and cruel, inhuman and degrading treatment.

I grieve, knowing that inflicting injustice and cruelty on even one person scars and diminishes all of us.

Our nation's use of torture has degraded victims, perpetrators, and policy makers, and has damaged the integrity of our nation.

I pray for strength and steadfastness in the work of repairing the world. In all things may we honor the dignity of each person.

Amen