

*Prayer for end of Sorry Day Service 2015*

*Holy Father, God of Love, You are the creator of this land and of all good things.*

*We acknowledge the pain and shame of our history and the suffering of our peoples – especially the grief of those who were taken, as children from their homes and families, taken from all they knew and loved.*

*We ask your forgiveness.*

*We thank you for the survival of our Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures.*

*Our hope is in you, because you gave your son Jesus to reconcile the world to you.*

*We pray for your strength and grace to forgive, accept and love one another, as you love, forgive, and accept us.*

*Give us the courage to acknowledge the realities of our history so that we may build a better future for our nation.*

*Teach us to respect all cultures.*

*Teach us to care for our land and waters.*

*Help us to share justly the resources of this land.*

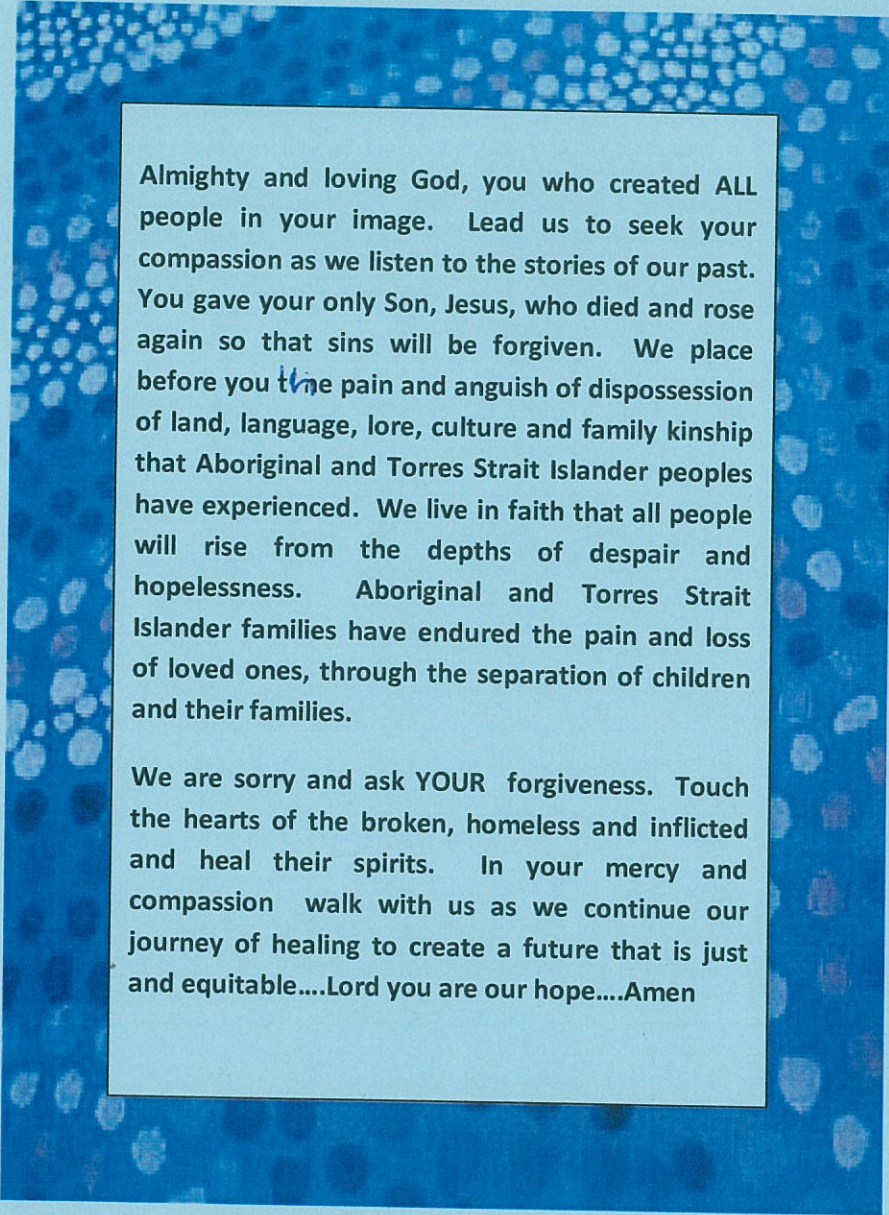
*Help us to bring about spiritual and social change to improve the quality of life for all peoples in our communities, especially the disadvantaged.*

*Help young people to find true dignity and self-esteem in the ways of your Spirit.*

*May your power and love be the foundations on which we build our families, our communities and our Nation?*

*Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen*





Almighty and loving God, you who created ALL people in your image. Lead us to seek your compassion as we listen to the stories of our past. You gave your only Son, Jesus, who died and rose again so that sins will be forgiven. We place before you the pain and anguish of dispossession of land, language, lore, culture and family kinship that Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples have experienced. We live in faith that all people will rise from the depths of despair and hopelessness. Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander families have endured the pain and loss of loved ones, through the separation of children and their families.

We are sorry and ask YOUR forgiveness. Touch the hearts of the broken, homeless and inflicted and heal their spirits. In your mercy and compassion walk with us as we continue our journey of healing to create a future that is just and equitable....Lord you are our hope....Amen