

## Prayer Path to Europe Day on May 9<sup>th</sup> - Week 1 28.03. - 03.04.2020

**“We say Yes to a Europe of encounter, of dialogue und reconciliation”.**

Encounter develops mutual understanding; this is one of our basic experiences in *Together for Europe*. Therefore, we are longing for dialoguing with everybody. We strongly say Yes to Europe that seeks dialogue and likes to compromise on different interests, so that everybody may live freely.

The miracle of reconciliation after the catastrophe of World War II has brought “a new Europe” into life. But this Europe of freedom is very fragile. Therefore, it is good to know that the power of reconciliation, which is highly meaningful to us and to our Christian belief, enables us to live up to the ambitious goal to reconcile despite historical wounds and differences.”

### ***Word of the Gospel: 2<sup>nd</sup> Corinthian 6, 2-10***

“For he says, ‘In a favorable time I listened to you, and in a day of salvation I have helped you.’ Behold, now is the favorable time; behold, now is the day of salvation. We put no obstacle in anyone’s way, so that no fault may be found with our ministry, but as servants of God we commend ourselves in every way: by great endurance, in afflictions, hardships, calamities, beatings, imprisonments, riots, labors, sleepless nights, hunger; by purity, knowledge, patience, kindness, the Holy Spirit, genuine love; by truthful speech, and the power of God; with the weapons of righteousness for the right hand and for the left; through honor and dishonor, through slander and praise. We are treated as impostors, and yet are true; as unknown, and yet well known; as dying, and behold, we live; as punished, and yet not killed; as sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; as poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, yet possessing everything.”

*75 years after the end of the Second World War and thirty years after the fall of the Berlin Wall the catalogue of disgust and confidence is still valid. Paul speaks in the plural for all the apostles of his time and for us, too. The same evil that conjured up the disaster of the past also reaches out today. We are thankful for the miracle of reconciliation but we also know that peace remains fragile, mankind remains seducible.*

*(Federal President Frank-Walter Steinmeier, World Holocaust Forum at Yad Vashem, Jerusalem, 23.01.2020).*

***Prayer:***

Father in Heaven, change us in the depth of our hearts, so that through us and our common path Your peace and Your justice become true.

Jesus Christ, change us in the depth of our hearts, so that through us and our common path Your mercy and truth will be recognized in the world.

Holy Spirit, change us in the depth of our hearts, so that through us and our common path the love and friendship of Christ will be recognized in the world.

(Together for Europe, 2016)

***Song:***

Father, make us one, that the world may know Thou have sent the Son. Father, make us one.

***Intercession:***

During this week we especially pray for these European countries:

Albania

Bulgaria

Georgia

Kosovo

Malta

Norway

San Marino

Spain

The United Kingdom