Prayer for the people of the SOUTH

Gracious God
We pray for the people of the South
We thank you for the abundance
of our human and natural resources
and for the wonderful diversity
of our peoples and landscapes.

Yet Lord, despite the richness of our resources
We remain poor, dependent, and without vision

Our landscape is characterised by
the brutal scars of exploitation and corrupt governance
the very real experiences of hunger and increasing poverty.
the tears of parents who are unable to feed their children.
the fear and uncertainty that we have for our future.

We confess our insensitivity, lack of compassion,
and hard-heartedness.

We pray for our region
for whom the cross of our Lord Jesus
has such deep meaning.

As we often stand and watch
the sufferings and pain
the sickness and grief of our people;
Help us to know
that Calvary is not the end
and remind us always,
of the triumph of your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ.

We are grateful Lord,
for the establishment of peace in warring countries;
for reconstruction and development work; and
for the miracles of our time.

We give thanks for all who are ready to help the overburdened
And we pray for your blessing on those who suffer on behalf of others.

Help us always to remember
that any kindness extended to others,
is really given to you.

This we pray through Jesus Christ our Saviour.