

## PRAYERS from a German Lawyer

The Charter of the United Nations was signed on 26 June 1945, in San Francisco, at the conclusion of the United Nations Conference on International Organization, and came into force on 24 October 1945

**Please God help us** 'To maintain international peace and security, and to that end: to take effective collective measures for the prevention and removal of threats to the peace, and for the suppression of acts of aggression or other breaches of the peace, and to bring about by peaceful means, and in conformity with the principles of justice and international law, adjustment or settlement of international disputes or situations which might lead to a breach of the peace;'

**Please God help us** 'To develop friendly relations among nations based on respect for the principle of equal rights and self-determination of peoples, and to take other appropriate measures to strengthen universal peace;'

**Please God help us** 'To achieve international co-operation in solving international problems of an economic, social, cultural, or humanitarian character, and in promoting and encouraging respect for human rights and for fundamental freedoms for all without distinction as to race, sex, language, or religion;'

**Please God help us** 'To be a centre for harmonizing the actions of nations in the attainment of these common ends.'

(the Text is from Article 1 of the United Nations Charter)

God, our countries were committed then, and thus all of us, our politicians, our friends, our enemies are under oath.

We know what has to be done because we signed this long ago.

Help us to face the fact that we turned away.

Help us to be honest with ourselves, honest with one another, about what we do and should be doing. We trust in You.