

We are all so shocked and saddened by the fires in so many parts of Victoria. The scenes of devastation we see in the media touch our hearts deeply.

There is a sense of unity in our praying for one another across the country.

We pray for all affected.

We pray for those who have lost loved ones.

We give thanks for the courage of volunteer firefighters

We give thanks for the generosity of neighbours, friends and strangers offering hospitality and assistance.

A prayer from: ***The Prayers We Breathe*** (Mothers' Union, UK)

Gracious God,

through your Son you have taught us

that nothing in life or in death is able to separate us from your love.

Look in mercy on all to whom great sorrow has come through tragedy.

Help those who are injured, support those who are dying.

Strengthen the members of the emergency services.

Console and protect those who have lost loved ones.

Give your light in darkness to all who are near despair,

and assure them that you hold all souls in life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *AMEN*