



Merciful and loving God,
we ask you to bless those in Central and Eastern Europe
who have suffered oppression because of their faith.
Help us to stand in solidarity with them
and to be beacons of hope as they renew their
faith communities.
May the strength of their faith inspire us to persevere
in ours.

For this, we ask the intercession of the Albanian martyrs.
When faced with political persecution,
these men and women remained faithful and gave their
lives for love of you.
May their sacrifice be a witness of the power of
the Resurrection.
We ask you to grant us the same spirit of hope that rose
up in them.
Bless us with the same spirit of fortitude that was
unfailing in them.
Fill us with the same spirit of love that only you
can give.

Amen.

Your people shall rebuild the ancient ruins;
the foundations from ages past you shall raise up;
“Repairer of the breach,” they shall call you,
“Restorer of ruined dwellings.”

—Isaiah 58:12

