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## Prayer at Cathedral Church of St.



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Posted by Roy Greene (April 16, 2013 04:32 AM)

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espondent

otal service at the Cathedral Church of St.  
on today. The Episcopal church announced

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By Matt Rucibellon, Globe.com

Nearly 100 people gathered for a spe

Paul on Tremont Street just after wa

...st three things," the Reverend Cristina...  
...n. "The first is that the hatred and the blood...  
...They are real. They are real and present"

...point: "They are not the only reality." There...  
...he reaching out and the coming together as

...uggle to say Father, forgive them.  
...they do. For we know not what we do."

...e blue and yellow Boston Marathon jackets,  
...on for several moments.

...ed their hands or tissues to wipe away tears.

...middle of the church began to shake,  
...ls, another woman in a pew behind her  
...round the crying woman, holding her for

...vers for those who died, including 8-year-

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"I want to say on a day like today, j...  
Rathbone said during a brief sermon...  
and the death and the pain are real...  
with us today."

But, she said in making her second j...  
is also the reality of: "the hope and t...  
we are doing here today."

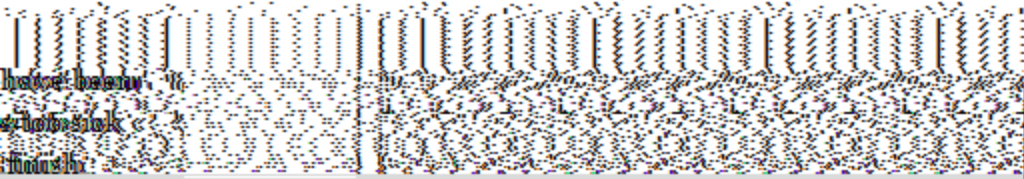
Lastly, Rathbone said: "We must str...  
Forgive us. For they know not what

Churchgoers, several of whom wore...  
then sat in silence and quiet reflectic

Many bowed their heads. Several us

One woman sitting by herself in the...  
sobbing silently. After several secon...  
leaned over and wrapper her arms a...  
about half a minute.

The Rev. Steven Bonsey offered pray



Angela Hamilton, 53, of North Carolina, planned to run what would...  
her third Boston Marathon, later on Monday morning she said she was...  
to run. Instead, she went to City Square to watch the slide motions...  
before heading back to her hotel.

About 45 minutes later, she watched the tragedy unfold on the hotel...  
hotel room.

Outside of the church after the service, she said she cried because she...  
pray.

"It was a little peace and comfort at a time when you can't explain al...  
emotions," said Hamilton, her voice still hoarse from her recent illness

marathon  
at the race.

because it

cathedral  
ial service.

to pray  
."I just

It's a start.

he added.

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was nearly  
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er didn't

"I just feel for -- it's too much to process," she added.

East Boston resident Jonathan Ralton, 33, wore his yellow Boston Marathon jacket to the service. Monday was the fifth time he has volunteered at

The church he belongs to, Trinity Church in Copley Square, is closed and is within the area police have kept blocked off as a crime scene.

Ralton worked from home Tuesday and saw on Facebook that the Cathedral Church of St. Paul, another church in the diocese, was holding a special

"I really didn't feel that I could go into work, but I wanted to be able to and I'm glad that the diocese opened up the cathedral for us," he said. "I wanted to have a place to reflect and to try and go about my day."

When asked if the service helped him, Ralton said: "It's a beginning. It's a place to center myself and reflect."

"I'm pretty much still in shock. It was very traumatic where I was," he

When the bombs went off on Monday, Ralton said he was standing about a block and a half away. He tried to run toward the scene, but was trampled by people heading away from the explosions. He stayed in place and tried to help out for as long as he could.

Standing beside him, Rev. Rathbone said some people stricken with grief turned to the church's clergy for help and guidance, including a runner volunteer that she said she spoke with Tuesday.

"The runner didn't have any words, just tears," she said. "The volunteer yet have tears, but I told him they were coming."

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