

CORONAVIRUS DISEASE 2019 (COVID-19)

More prayers in the time of COVID-19



Audience: All Colleagues

Revision Date: 04/05/2020

Version: #1

Compiled by Michigan Mission Integration

Please send others to Michael Sanderl, Chief Mission Officer

A Blessing for Health Care Workers in Time of Pandemic

Blessed are the ones who cannot be isolated. Blessed are all the healthcare workers.

Blessed are the hands that are raw from scrubbing and sanitizing, and the hands for healing, comforting, and supporting.

Blessed are the shoulders that carry the weight of life and death.

Blessed are the feet that are aching from standing at the bedside, running between rooms, and answering phones.

Blessed are the hearts that are frightened and breaking.

Blessed are the mothers and fathers, grandmothers and grandfathers, sisters and brothers, partners and friends, who cannot go home.

Blessed are the families who become isolated from each other, the ones who sacrifice their own comfort so that others need not be alone in their suffering.

Blessed are the sick and the dying, those who bear the image of God before us.

Blessed are those who look upon their work as sacred as and as gift at this time of overwhelming demand.

Blessed are those who lack the space to process all what lies ahead, and may others bear their burden with them.

Blessed are the ones who are found weeping in corners of our emergency rooms, our hospitals, our primary cares, our outpatient centers so that we might see a strong face to greet our need. Blessed are those who weep openly with us, so that even our tears have companions.

Blessed are you, O God: quietly holding each of us along the way. Come quickly, abide unceasingly. Love us while we see the worst and give us the hope to do our best and continue our mission with compassionate care.

Amen.

A Prayer by Sisters of IHM, Scranton, Pennsylvania - During a Pandemic

Loving God, Holy One,

Your desire is for our wholeness and well-being.

We hold in tenderness and prayer the collective suffering of our world at this time.

We grieve precious lives lost and vulnerable lives threatened.

We ache for ourselves and our neighbors, standing before an uncertain future.

We pray: May love, not fear, go viral.

Inspire our leaders to discern and choose wisely, aligned with the common good.

Help us to practice social distancing and reveal to us new and creative ways to come together in spirit and in solidarity.

Call us to profound trust in your faithful presence, You, the God who does not abandon, You, the Holy One, breathing within us, breathing among us, breathing around us in our beautiful yet wounded world.

A Prayer by Catholic Health Association - Intercessions in Time of Pandemic

Leader: Our response is: God, protect them.

For all in direct patient care; give them strength for their service and strength to ask for help when they are in need.

All: God, protect them.

Leader: For all the sick; bring them to full health and restore them to those who love them.

All: God, protect them.

Leader: For all those isolated in their homes; sustain them in joy and peace.

All: God, protect them.

Leader: For all those who have died and those who grieve their loss in isolation; comfort them in their sorrow.

All: God, protect them.

Leader: For decision-makers at all levels; send them your wisdom and good counsel to serve their communities.

All: God, protect them.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.

As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end.

Amen.

A Prayer by Catholic Health Association -God's Protection of Caregivers

Opening: Let us be still in the presence of God and one another.

God calls each of us to a specific work; to make a contribution that only we can make. We pray today for the courage, skill and sacrifice of all caregivers serving in this time.

Reading: Pillar of Cloud and Fire, Exodus 13: 21-22

The Lord went in front of them in a pillar of cloud by day, to lead them along the way, and in a pillar of fire by night, to give them light, so that they might travel by day and by night. Neither the pillar of cloud by day nor the pillar of fire by night left its place in front of the people.

Closing: God who traveled before and behind the Israelites in their journey from slavery to freedom, surround and support the men and women working in your healing ministry today. Never leave them, comfort them, and keep them well. Give them the strength to care for those who are sick and dying as well as the strength to receive help from others.

Be with the families of all who serve. Send your peace for their anxieties, joy for their fears, hope for their despair, and light for their darkness. We pray in the confidence of your love. Amen.

A Prayer by Catholic Health Association - Persons Suffering from the Coronavirus

Merciful God hear our fervent prayer for all who suffer from the coronavirus.

May those who are infected receive the proper treatment and the comfort of your healing.

May the caregivers, families and neighbors be shielded from the onslaught of the virus.

Give solace to those who grieve the loss of loved ones.

Protect and guide those who strive to find a cure, that their work may conquer the disease and restore communities to wholeness and health.

Help us to rise above fear. We ask all this through the intercession of Our Lady of Lourdes, and in the name of your Son, Jesus, and the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

Amen.

A Prayer by Sr. Deborah Troillett, RSM - To Ease Anxiety (Adapted)

O God, during these days of our Lenten season, uncertainty, anxiety and fear threaten to overtake our lives. In the spirit of Catherine McAuley's own plea, we pray "Take from my heart all painful anxiety."

May we "fast" from over-anxious thoughts and paralyzing fears. May our faith deepen so that we may more confidently entrust our loved ones and ourselves to your care.

Continue to calm our minds and strengthen our hearts that we may respond with love rather than react with fear; that we may deepen our compassionate connection with those who are most suffering and those who are most vulnerable.

May your holy presence shelter us all and transform us so that we may be instruments of your peace and healing for those entrusted to our immediate care.

Amen.

A Blessing for Health Care Workers in Time of Pandemic

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Blessed are all the healthcare workers.

Blessed are the hands that are raw from scrubbing and sanitizing, and the hands for healing, comforting, and supporting.

Blessed are the shoulders that carry the weight of life and death.

Blessed are the feet that are aching from standing at the bedside, running between rooms, and answering phones.

Blessed are the hearts that are frightened and breaking.

Blessed are the mothers and fathers, grandmothers and grandfathers, sisters and brothers, partners and friends, who cannot go home.

Blessed are the families who become isolated from each other, the ones who sacrifice their own comfort so that others need not be alone in their suffering.

Blessed are the sick and the dying, those who bear the image of God before us.

Blessed are those who look upon their work as sacred as and as gift at this time of overwhelming demand.

Blessed are those who lack the space to process all what lies ahead, and may others bear their burden with them.

Blessed are the ones who are found weeping in corners of our emergency rooms, our hospitals, our primary cares, our outpatient centers so that we might see a strong face to greet our need. Blessed are those who weep openly with us, so that even our tears have companions.

Blessed are you, O God: quietly holding each of us along the way. Come quickly, abide unceasingly. Love us while we see the worst and give us the hope to do our best and continue our mission with compassionate care.

Amen.

A Prayer by Catholica Health Association - "God is Close: A Reminder in the Midst of Global Pandemic"

Catholic Health Association

God of silence and stillness, we trust you are with us in this time of noise and chaos. We pray for an end to this pandemic. Whisper your words of comfort, encouragement and hope to all who need them in these days of fear. Draw close to those who are sick and all those who risk illness, caring for them, protecting and uplifting them. In Your name, we pray. Amen

A Prayer by Sr. Cynthia Serjak, RSM - Uncertain Times

God of infinite mercy hear our prayer!

In this time of bewilderment and fear, we ask you to give us the courage to take care of one another as Jesus did. For those who are ill, especially those who are frightened and alone, for those who cannot access healthcare, for those who are homeless and lost, hear our prayer!

In the midst of our sadness and grief, we ask you to give us words to comfort one another. For those who are dying, and for those who have already died from this virus, for those who tend them and for those with no one to tend them, hear our prayer!

In the midst of our own anxiety we ask you to give us the courage to support one another as you would. For those who are unexpectedly unemployed, for employers who share what they can, for our government and financial institutions and those who lead them, hear our prayer!

In the midst of our struggle to ensure a healthy future for all who live on this planet, we ask you to give us the hope that surpasses our current understanding. For healthcare workers, spiritual leaders and our faith communities, for artists and poets, for prophets and teachers, hear our prayer!

In the midst of our growing awareness that all life on Earth is connected, we ask for the heart to respect and cherish all life. That all peoples recognize that we are all your children, hear our prayer!
We trust in you and your power working in us. Please hear and answer our prayers.

Amen! Amen!

A Prayer for a Pandemic

May we who are merely inconvenienced
Remember those whose lives are at stake.

May we who have no risk factors
Remember those most vulnerable.

May we who have the luxury of working from home
Remember those who must choose between preserving their health or making the rent.

May we who have the flexibility to care for our children when their schools close
Remember those who have no options.

May we who have to cancel our trips
Remember those that have no safe place to go.

May we who are losing our margin money in the tumult of the economic market
Remember those who have no margin at all.

May we who settle in for a quarantine at home
Remember those who have no home.

As fear grips our country,
Let us choose love.

During this time when we cannot physically wrap our arms around each other,
Let us find ways to be the loving embrace of God of our neighbors.

Amen.

A prayer for the sick especially those suffering from the coronavirus

Loving God, you sent your son Jesus Christ to heal the sick. We ask you to come to our aid in the midst of the coronavirus crisis that we too may experience your healing love. We ask you to heal those who are sick. Calm those who are living in fear. Be with those who have died and comfort their families. Inspire health professionals to aid them in their healing work. Guide national leaders to lead and make decisions with

wisdom. Help us to always be aware of your presence as we place our trust in you. We ask this in Jesus name. Amen.

A Prayer for an end to the coronavirus crisis

Loving God, we come before you in our time of need. We lay before you our concerns and fears over the spread of the coronavirus. We know that you are mightier than all our fears and that the name of Jesus is the name above all other names. We ask, in the name of Jesus, that you stop the spread of the coronavirus. In your mercy, heal those who are sick and lead those who have died into your heavenly kingdom. We ask this in the mighty name of Jesus. Amen.

A Prayer by Becky Evans, National Association of Catholic Chaplains - For the Caregiver

Giver of life, and light,
Healer of all souls,
Let my cup overflow
with your grace, so that I
may bring solace to each
soul entrusted to my care.

Let my eyes see your face
in each person I meet. Let
my ears listen with attention
to the stories of anguish, joy,
loneliness, fear, or pain. Let
your empathy overcome me.

Let my hands be your hands,
your consoling hands of peace.
Let my feet be anointed to walk
with integrity and authenticity.

Divine, healing Caregiver,
let gratitude dance in me
as I carry your Word
of love and hope to each
sick or troubled person
in this broken, beautiful world.

Blessing for the Sick by Catholic Health Association

May you be held in love.
May tenderness carry you.
May the pain you know
Too well
Be lifted from you.

May your heart's heaviness
Be lightened by grace,

May hope abound for you.

May those who serve you
Care for you.
May their expertise help you,
Their compassion sustain
you.

May you know you are not
alone
But always loved by God.

May you see miracles
And know you are one.
May your courage give us
courage.
May your love hold us
tenderly.

And may you dwell in peace
In the midst
The depth
The breadth of
Your being.

Amen.

A Prayer by Kerry Weber, executive editor of *America* magazine - Amid an Epidemic

Jesus Christ, you traveled through towns and villages “curing every disease and illness.” At your command, the sick was made well. Come to our aid now, in the midst of the global spread of the coronavirus, that we may experience your healing love.

Heal those who are sick with the virus. May they regain their strength and health through quality medical care.

Heal us from our fear, which prevents nations from working together and neighbors from helping one another.

Heal us from our pride, which can make us claim invulnerability to a disease that knows no borders.

Jesus Christ, healer of all, stay by our side in this time of uncertainty and sorrow.

Be with those who have died from the virus. May they be at rest with you in your eternal peace.

Be with the families of those who are sick or have died. As they worry and grieve, defend them from illness and despair. May they know your peace.

Be with the doctors, nurses, researchers and all medical professionals who seek to heal and help those affected and who put themselves at risk in the process. May they know your protection and peace.

Be with the leaders of all nations. Give them the foresight to act with charity and true concern for the well-being of the people they are meant to serve. Give them the wisdom to invest in long-term solutions that will help prepare for or prevent future outbreaks. May they know your peace, as they work together to achieve it on earth.

Whether we are home or abroad, surrounded by many people suffering from this illness or only a few, Jesus Christ, stay with us as we endure and mourn, persist and prepare. In place of our anxiety, give us your peace.

Jesus Christ heal us.

A Prayer – Author Unknown – (adapted from) "A Prayer for Those Who are Ill"

Spirit of God, we bring before you today those who suffer from illness, for those whose lives are profoundly affected by their illness, and for those caring for them.

When they feel fragile and broken, remind them that you call them by name and hold them in the palm of your hand.

When they feel devalued, remind them that they are made in your image.

When they are reminded of different times in the past, lead them to grow in the faith that you love them today, as they are, in the reality of their lives this day.

When they feel uncertain and fearful about the future, lead them to that perfect love which casts out all fear.

When situations remind them not of what they can do, but of what they cannot do, remind them that love never fails.

May all of us continue to see or respond to the needs of others, especially those who suffer in our midst. May we live with courage to respond to the challenges that each of us faces. Amen.

A Prayer by Elizabeth (Lisa) Ecks in Sacramento, CA - For Peace and Fortitude in Worry

In this age of anxiety & stress, we ask for your Presence to be made clearly amongst us.

Be with us as we confront illnesses that leave many of us in a state of worry for our families, our friends, our colleagues, our communities, our nation and our world.

As hospitals and health care providers seek to continue the healing ministry of You, may they have fortitude for the road ahead, knowing that you are walking this journey with them with your mighty Hand. Remind them of both their strength and Your strength.

We ask for Your comfort upon those who have already lost loved ones during the time of viruses. And, may healing be upon those who are physically suffering and spiritually suffering through this season.

May the wilderness of this time & the uncertainty we may feel, strengthen our resolve to lean on your word, abide in your presence, and be guided by your enduring and powerful Spirit.

You have been with us in every age and will remain a refuge — to take solace, to recollect our thoughts, to remember that all things of this world are fleeting, and this too shall pass.

Let us recall the calming of the storm by your Hand. Let us today and tomorrow and the days ahead lean on Your fortitude and resolve to care for each other and support each other each through this difficult journey before us in our lives both collectively and individually.

Amidst the darkness, the confusion and the storm of worry, may your Presence be made abundantly revealed so that Your light, Your hand and Your strength, gives us steadiness, refuge, clarity of purpose, and hope.

Amen.

A Prayer by Mary Ann Brussat

God of Mercy be with the tens of thousands of people who have contracted the coronavirus around the world. Comfort those whose loved ones have died. Bring peace to those living with uncertainty after perhaps being exposed to the virus. Give patience to those who are quarantined and unable to move freely in their communities.

Wise and Faithful Guide watch over and protect other people from catching this deadly virus. Strengthen those who are risking their own lives to care for sick patients.

May we all be filled with compassion for those who are suffering.

A Prayer by Catholic Health Association - For Peace in Anxiety During the Coronavirus Pandemic

Loving God, we come to you full of anxiety about what may happen in the coming days and weeks. Shower us with the peace Jesus promised to his disciples and make us into steady pillars for those around us. In this time of uncertainty and epidemic, wake us up to the reminder that we are not alone.

Even as we are asked to keep our distance from others, help us to find ways to reach out to those who need our support. We pray especially for those whose incomes and livelihoods are threatened. For the children who will miss meals due to school closures. For those already isolated, lonely and scared. Loving God give them your peace, and through our hands ensure they have what they need.

Sustain, strengthen and protect all caregivers. Bless them as they offer compassionate care and show selfless courage in the face of risk.

Remind us, each time we wash our hands, that in our baptism you call us to let go of our fears and live in joy, peace, and hope. Amen.

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A Blessing for Caregivers

Catholic Health Association

May you see with tender eyes

The wounds of those before you.

May you hear with well-tuned ears

The unspoken needs of those whose voices are muted.

May you hold with gentle hands

The bodies and the spirits of those you care for.

May the beauty of soul,

The strength of spirit,

The wholeness of being

Lead you, inspire you

And let you know your own

Beauty of soul,

Strength of spirit,
Wholeness of being.

May you know that,
As you care for others,
God cares for you, sees you,
Holds you tenderly. Amen.

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When they are reminded of different times in the past, lead them to grow in the faith that you love them today, as they are, in the reality of their lives this day.

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As of 3/30/20