

# A New Birth to a Living Hope

## Praying through the COVID-19 Pandemic

*Thursday, April 30, 2020*

### Invitation to Prayer

During times of crisis,  
in moments of doubt,  
during periods of isolation,  
through seasons of uncertainty...  
we place our trust in our loving God.

Let us open our hearts to God's word.  
In communion with the saints,  
in solidarity with the suffering,  
and united with all people of good will,  
we pray for all whose lives have been impacted  
by the COVID-19 pandemic.

### Scripture

*1 Peter 1:3-8*

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
who in his great mercy gave us a new birth to a living hope  
through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead,  
to an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading,  
kept in heaven for you,  
who by the power of God are safeguarded through faith,  
to a salvation that is ready to be revealed in the final time.

In this you rejoice, although now for a little while  
you may have to suffer through various trials,  
so that the genuineness of your faith,  
more precious than gold that is perishable even though tested by fire,  
may prove to be for praise, glory, and honor  
as the revelation of Jesus Christ.

*Readings are taken from Lectionary for Mass, Volume IV,*

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## Litany • Jesus, the Healer

God, Creator of all things,  
Jesus, Redeemer of the world,  
Spirit of life and love,  
Holy Trinity, one God,

Lamb of God, who take away the sins of the world,  
Lamb of God, who take away the sins of the world,  
Lamb of God, who take away the sins of the world,

Jesus, Word of God,  
Jesus, Child of Mary,  
Emmanuel, God-with-us,  
Jesus, Sacrament of unconditional love,  
Jesus, Good Shepherd,  
Jesus, Crucified and Risen,  
Jesus, the Way, the Truth, and the Life,

Jesus, Bread of Life,  
Jesus, Cup of Salvation,  
Jesus, Manna for exiles,  
Jesus, Fount of Living Water,  
Jesus, Bread of Solidarity,  
Jesus, Food for the Hungry,  
Jesus, Water for the Thirsty,  
Jesus, Nourishment for the journey,  
Jesus, Foretaste of the Heavenly Banquet,

Jesus, Compassionate Healer,  
Jesus, Companion of the Sick,  
Jesus, Source of Transformation,  
Jesus, Hospitality for the stranger,  
Jesus, Advocate for the invisible,  
Jesus, Strength for the weary,  
Jesus, Rest for the exhausted,  
Jesus, Comfort for the Dying,

Jesus, Courage for the fearful,  
Jesus, Hope for the despairing,  
Jesus, Shelter in the time of storm,  
Jesus, Oasis in the desert,  
Jesus, Light in our darkness,  
Jesus, Lamp for our feet,  
Jesus, River of divine mercy,  
Jesus, Companion through life's journey,

Christ Jesus, Alpha and Omega:  
Christ Jesus, reigning forever:  
Christ Jesus, Head of the Body, the Church:  
Christ Jesus, present with us always:

have mercy on us.  
have mercy on us.  
have mercy on us.  
have mercy on us,

hear us, O Lord.  
be near us, O Lord.  
stay with us, O Lord.

have mercy on us

sustain us, O Lord.

heal us, O Lord.

save us, O Lord.

We adore you, O Christ.  
We praise you, O Christ.  
We serve you, O Christ.  
We love you, O Christ.

## **For Healthcare Professionals**

Giver of so many gifts,  
we thank you for the women and men  
who dedicate their lives to providing healthcare in our communities,  
*(and in a special way we thank you for...).*

As they battle a virus that knows no distinctions,  
help them to care for the sick in safety, and with determination and compassion.

God, give them strength.

God, renew their spirits.

God, protect them from harm.

We pray through Christ our Lord.

## **Concluding Prayer • Perseverance**

O God,  
our rock of safety and our shelter in stormy times,  
listen to our cries and calm our fears.  
Help us to persevere through these difficult days  
with renewed faith,  
with trust in your compassionate care,  
and with the patience to hold on until a better day dawns.

We pray through Christ our Lord.