

A New Birth to a Living Hope

Praying through the COVID-19 Pandemic

Thursday, May 21, 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/with Seniors and People at Risk

God of Mercy,
You never abandon your people.
Your unconditional love is unfailing.

Uphold our sisters and brothers
whose underlying conditions put them at risk for COVID-19,
including the seniors in our families, communities, and nursing homes,
(and especially...).

During this time when physical separation is necessary,
reassure them, and all of us,
that bonds of faith, family, and friendship
stretch beyond any distance or length of time.

We pray through Christ our Lord.

Concluding Prayer • Grace Each Day

God of every age and place,
during this time when the patterns of everyday life
have been superseded by drastic measures and emergency directives,
give us the grace to live each day as fully as possible.
Give us patience when we grow restless.
Give us determination to focus not on short-term inconveniences,
but on everyday actions that contribute to the long-term good of all.

We pray through Christ our Lord.