

Pastoral Ministry during the Coronavirus: Prayers, Verses and Psalms to keep by the phone

General Prayers:

Almighty God, you know that we are surrounded by many great dangers, and because of our human frailty we cannot withstand them. Give us health of mind and body so that we may overcome, through your Son Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen

God of all hope, we look to you in times of need. You are the healing God, You are the saving God, You are worthy of all praise, help us to approach you with faith and thanksgiving. You are the spring of living water; help us find life in all its fullness in you, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

Lord Jesus Christ, you said to your disciples 'I am with you always', be with us today. Hear our prayers for others and for ourselves, and keep us in your care, help us to trust you, help us to know that you are with us, help us to believe that nothing can separate us from your love revealed in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

Lord, in these days of mercy, make us quiet and prayerful; in these days of challenge, make us stronger in you; in these days of emptiness, take possession of us; in these days of waiting, open our hearts to the mystery of your cross. Amen

Keep us, good Lord, under the shadow of your mercy in this time of uncertainty and distress. Sustain and support the anxious and fearful, and lift up all who are brought low; that we may rejoice in your comfort knowing that nothing can separate us from your love in Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen

Lord Jesus Christ, you taught us to love our neighbour, and to care for those in need as if we were caring for you. In this time of anxiety, give us strength to comfort the fearful, to tend the sick, and to assure the isolated of our love, and your love, for your name's sake. Amen

For those who are ill:

Lord Jesus, You walked on the earth, understood the broken world, and yet also rose from death into resurrected life. I/We pray for that *she/he* would be held at this time in your loving arms.

Bless the work of the doctors, nurses and hospital staff, and bring the power of your resurrection life to, that *she/he* may be filled with your restoring Spirit. May your resurrection life bring healing and wellness into *her/his* being and may your grace carry *her/him* through this hard time into a new season filled with hope and joy. Amen

Father, we come before You to pray for those infected with this virus. We pray not only for their healing but also for them to be comforted while they heal. We pray for all those who are facing illness today, especially..... We ask that you would bring *him/her*

healing, comfort and peace. Calm *his/her* fears and let *him/her* experience the healing power of your love. We ask this in Jesus' name. Amen

Merciful God, we entrust to your tender care those who are ill or in pain, knowing that whenever danger threatens, your everlasting arms are there to hold them safe. Comfort and heal them, and restore them to health and strength; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

For those who are anxious:

Lord, the Scriptures remind us that perfect love casts out all fear, and we pray your perfect love upon the hearts of all those who are burdened with the fear of this virus, remind them that you hold them in your hand and will not let them go. Help those who are living in unease to trust you in this time so that they may rest assured that you will be faithful until the end of the age. Amen

For those caring for the sick:

Lord we pray for those who are caring for the sick, that you would be their source of rest, their source of replenishment when weary, and their source of hope in such overwhelming times. We also pray for their health that they may not fall ill. Gracious God, protect them as they nurse others back to health. Amen

Loving God, give skill, sympathy and resilience to all who are caring for the sick at this time, and give your wisdom to those searching for a cure. Strengthen them with your Spirit, that through their work many will be restored to health; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

For one who is ill or isolated to offer:

O God, help me to trust you, help me to know that you are with me, help me to believe that nothing can separate me from your love revealed in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

Pray the Lord's Prayer and a blessing:

The peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep our hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord, and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among us and remain with us always. Amen

May God give you and all those you love his comfort and his peace, his light and his joy, in this world and the next;
and the blessing ...

You are called and loved by God the Father and kept safe by Jesus Christ. Mercy, peace and love be yours in abundance, from God the Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

The Lord bless you and watch over you, the Lord make his face shine upon you and be gracious to you, the Lord look kindly on you and give you peace; and the blessing ...

Now may the Lord of peace himself give you peace at all times and in every way. The Lord be with you, and the blessing ...

Prayer with the dying:

THE KONTAKION:

Give rest, O Christ,

**to your servant with your saints:
where sorrow and pain are no more,
neither sighing, but life everlasting.**

You only are immortal, the creator and maker of all:
and we are mortal, formed from the dust of the earth,
and unto earth shall we return.

For so you ordained when you created me, saying:

'Dust you are and to dust you shall return.'

All of us go down to the dust,
yet weeping at the grave we make our song:

Christ is risen ! we are risen !

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia !

Give rest, O Christ, to your servant with your saints:

**where sorrow and pain are no more,
neither sighing, but life everlasting.**

Go forth upon your journey, Christian soul,

In the name of God the Father Almighty who created you;
In the name of Jesus Christ who redeemed you;
In the name of the Holy Spirit who strengthens you.
in communion with the blessed saints,
and aided by angels and archangels,
and all the host of heaven
May your rest be this day in peace,
and your dwelling in paradise. Amen

Into your hands, O merciful Saviour, we commend your servant *N*.
Acknowledge, we humbly beseech you, a sheep of your own fold,
a lamb of your own flock, a sinner of your own redeeming.

Receive *her/him* into the arms of your mercy, into the blessed rest of everlasting peace,
and into the glorious company of the saints in light. Amen.

Irish Blessing

May the road rise up to meet you

May the wind be always at your back

May the sun shine warmth upon your face

The rains fall soft upon your fields

And until we meet again

May God hold you in the palm of his hand

Helpful Bible verses:

³ Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and the God of all consolation, ⁴who consoles us in all our affliction, so that we may be able to console those who are in any affliction with the consolation with which we ourselves are consoled by God. ⁵For just as the sufferings of Christ are abundant for us, so also our consolation is abundant through Christ.

2 Cor 1:3-5

And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age.*

Matthew 28:20

²⁷Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid.

John 14:27

¹⁷ God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them.....¹⁸There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear;

1 John 4:17-18

³⁵Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will hardship, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword?

³⁷No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. ³⁸For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, ³⁹nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Romans 8:35-39

¹⁰ Do not fear, for I am with you, do not be afraid, for I am your God;
I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my victorious right hand.

.....I, the LORD your God, hold your right hand; it is I who say to you, 'Do not fear,
I will help you.'

Isaiah 41: 10-13

From the Psalms:

¹ The LORD is my light and my salvation;
whom shall I fear?

The LORD is the stronghold* of my life;
of whom shall I be afraid?

Psalms 27:1

¹ The LORD is my shepherd, I shall not want.

² He makes me lie down in green pastures;
he leads me beside still waters;*

³ he restores my soul.*

He leads me in right paths*
for his name's sake.

⁴ Even though I walk through the darkest valley,*

I fear no evil;
for you are with me;

your rod and your staff—
they comfort me.

⁵ You prepare a table before me
in the presence of my enemies;
you anoint my head with oil;
my cup overflows.

⁶ Surely* goodness and mercy* shall follow me
all the days of my life,
and I shall dwell in the house of the LORD
my whole life long.*

Psalm 23

¹ I lift up my eyes to the hills—
from where will my help come?

² My help comes from the LORD,
who made heaven and earth.

³ He will not let your foot be moved;
he who keeps you will not slumber.

⁴ He who keeps Israel
will neither slumber nor sleep.

⁵ The LORD is your keeper;
the LORD is your shade at your right hand.

⁶ The sun shall not strike you by day,
nor the moon by night.

⁷ The LORD will keep you from all evil;
he will keep your life.

⁸ The LORD will keep
your going out and your coming in
from this time on and for evermore.

Psalm 121

¹ Out of the depths I cry to you, O LORD.

² Lord, hear my voice!
Let your ears be attentive
to the voice of my supplications!

³ If you, O LORD, should mark iniquities,
Lord, who could stand?

⁴ But there is forgiveness with you,
so that you may be revered.

- ⁵ I wait for the LORD, my soul waits,
and in his word I hope;
- ⁶ my soul waits for the Lord
more than those who watch for the morning,
more than those who watch for the morning.
- ⁷ O Israel, hope in the LORD!
For with the LORD there is steadfast love,
and with him is great power to redeem.
- ⁸ It is he who will redeem Israel
from all its iniquities.

Psalm 130