



Oh God of love and peace, help us to survive each day,
in the midst of things we cannot understand,
To those of us who are afraid, give us courage
To those of us who are exhausted, give us strength
To those of us in despair, give us hope.
Comfort us in our struggle, O Loving God,
Walk with us through this time of crisis,
Grant us and our loved ones' safety, security and stability,
and help us to learn the lessons you are giving us at this time,
so that we may all work together to rebuild our lives,
and make the world a better place.
In the name of our loving Creator we pray,
Amen.

Written by Sr. Monica Clare, Episcopal Diocese of Newark, New Jersey

Loving God, 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. Amen.
Written by Sister Christine Koeljofer, IHM

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.

The Caregiver's Prayer

Compassionate and healing God, help us to see your face
in the faces of our sisters and brothers who are sick or injured.
Guide us to reach out to them with hearts of compassion
and hands which serve their needs.
When they are anxious,
help us to know how to reassure them.
When they feel alone,
help us to notice and be present.
When they feel confused, help us to listen and assist
in finding answers to their concerns.
When they need comfort, help us to communicate care and understanding.
When they are weak or discouraged help us find ways to refresh their spirits.
When doubt or darkness touches them,
give your Light to guide them and lift them up.
Help us as caregivers to always turn to You as the source
of our own strength and compassion as we seek to serve the needs of
our sisters and brothers who are vulnerable. Amen.

A Prayer for All Staff During COVID-19

Holy One

Today we come with our hearts and our minds broken and tired.

In a world frazzled by uncertainty

And deeply yearning for healing –

Helpers and healers are frazzled and yearning for healing, too.

Holy one

With each breath we take

Ground us in our values and purpose.

Those we each hold,

And those we share that connect us together.

As we enter into our work,

May we be filled with the tenacity of our founders

Who, without knowing what the future would hold
traveled here and built this place of healing and cared for this community.

We, too, do not know what the future will hold

And we, too, travel here daily,

Our actions rebuilding this place of healing every day

As we care for this community.

As we carry on our mission,

May we connect with our God, our founders and our purpose.

May compassion ground us always

May strength sustain us in this moment

And tenacity move us into the next.

May our presence bring some certainty into our corner of the world.

May our compassion bring healing to many, and to ourselves.

Amen, and may it be so.

Written by the Chaplains of St. Mary's Medical Center, Huntington, WV

Pray for the coronavirus to stop spreading.

Almighty God, we know that everything is in Your sovereign control.

We ask that You keep this new coronavirus from continuing to spread.

Give government officials the ability to safely handle people arriving from other countries.

Help people decide to stay home instead of traveling or going out needlessly.

Holy Spirit, remind people to wash their hands properly.

And while it may be heartbreaking, comfort families as they decide
to keep their distance from elderly or other high-risk family members.

God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble.

*Therefore, we will not fear, though the earth give way
and the mountains fall into the heart of the sea ...*

Psalms 46:1-2 (NIV)

Pray for those who have died.

God of all, we pray for all those whom we love but see no longer.

Grant to them eternal rest.

Let light perpetual shine upon them.

Receive them into the arms of Divine mercy, into the blessed rest of everlasting peace.

Amen.

Most merciful God, whose wisdom is beyond our understanding:

Deal graciously with all who grieve the loss of those they love.

Surround them with your love, that they may not be overwhelmed by their loss,
but have confidence in your goodness, and strength to meet the days to come;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Pray for protection for people at higher risk of developing the disease.

Dear Lord, we lift to You our concern for people who are more likely than others to become severely ill from COVID-19 – the elderly and people with chronic health conditions.

Protect them from harm and be their comfort in this time of uncertainty and,
for many, preventive isolation from loved ones.

Cast all your anxiety on him because he cares for you.

1 Peter 5:7 (NIV)

Pray for people who are infected with COVID-19 or facing quarantine.

Jesus, during Your ministry on Earth You showed Your power and caring by healing people of all ages and stations of life from physical, mental, and spiritual ailments. Be present now to people who need Your loving touch because of COVID-19.

May they feel Your power of healing through the care of doctors and nurses.

Take away the fear, anxiety, and feelings of isolation from people receiving treatment or under quarantine. Give them a sense of purpose in pursuing health and protecting others from exposure to the disease. Protect their families and friends and bring peace to all who love them.

*Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition,
with thanksgiving, present your requests to God.*

Philippians 4:6 (NIV)

Pray for medical professionals, caregivers, and researchers.

God, as more people get sick, healthcare workers and first responders are working longer hours with fewer supplies and with more risk of contracting the new coronavirus themselves. Renew their energy and sustain them on long shifts. Bring Your protection upon them as they work with patients. Multiply their supplies so they have the protective items needed to stay safe on the job.

Inspire and invigorate the research doctors developing better tests to diagnose the virus, create vaccines to prevent it, and identify protocols to eliminate the disease's spread.

*Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I will fear no evil,
for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.*

Psalms 23:4 (NIV)

Pray for leaders responsible for making decisions about the new coronavirus.

Father, we seek Your wisdom daily. Be with people making decisions that affect the lives and futures of our families, communities, countries, and the wider world.

We pray that they communicate clearly, truthfully, and calmly – with each other and with the public – and that their messages are received and heeded.

May truth and empathy be the touchstones of people setting policies for our protection.

He has delivered us from such a deadly peril, and he will deliver us again. On him we have set our hope that he will continue to deliver us, as you help us by your prayers ...

2 Corinthians 1:10-11 (NIV)

Pray for families adjusting to new ways of life.

Holy Spirit, as families adjust to everyone being home as businesses and schools close, we ask that You guide people in their new realities. Give spouses grace for each other. Prompt worn-out parents to speak words of kindness and encouragement to their children. Help children find creative ways to experience the beauty of all You have created and continue learning.

*Have mercy on me, my God, have mercy on me, for in you I take refuge.
I will take refuge in the shadow of your wings until the disaster has passed.*

Psalms 57:1 (NIV)

Pray for business owners and families facing financial stress.

Jesus, we thank You for Your faithfulness in how you have guided and equipped people in their jobs and have provided in the past. It can be scary and overwhelming not knowing how bills and obligations will be met or to not be able to provide for families.

As people feel financial strain during the uncertainty, bring them comfort and peace, reminding them that You are there for them. Provide for them in their times of need.

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

John 14:27 (NIV)

Pray for grocery store workers and delivery drivers.

Lord, we are so grateful for all the people who continue to work each day so that people are able to eat. We ask that You bless and protect them as they serve. Give them grace to handle disgruntled customers during supplies shortages. Keep their bodies healthy as they unload and stock boxes of supplies. Keep their cars and trucks running smoothly as they deliver needed supplies and food people have ordered online. And please protect them all from contracting the new coronavirus.

Because of the LORD's great love we are not consumed, for his compassions never fail. They are new every morning; great is your faithfulness.

Lamentations 3:22-23 (NIV)

Pray for emergency workers.

God our strong deliverer: when those charged with the urgent mediation of your healing power feel overwhelmed by the numbers of the suffering, uphold them in their fatigue and banish their despair. Let them see with your eyes, so they may know all their patients as precious.

Give comfort, and renew their energy and compassion,
for the sake of Jesus in whom is our life and our hope. Amen.

Give Us Hope

When evil darkens our world, give us light. When despair numbs our souls, give us hope. When we stumble and fall, lift us up. When doubts assail us, give us faith. When nothing seems sure, give us trust. When ideals fade, give us vision. When we lose our way, be our guide! That we may find serenity in Your presence, and purpose in doing Your will.

John D. Rayner

For Trust in God

O God, the source of all health: So fill my heart with faith in your love, that with calm expectancy I may make room for your power to possess me, and gracefully accept your healing; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

In Pain

Lord Jesus Christ, by your patience in suffering you hallowed earthly pain and gave us the example of obedience to your Father' will: Be near me in my time of weakness and pain; sustain me by your grace, that my strength and courage may not fail; heal me according to you will; and help me always to believe that what happens to me here is of little account if you hold me in eternal life, my Lord and my God. Amen.

For Sleep

O heavenly Father, you give your children sleep for the refreshing of soul and body: Grant me this gift, I pray; keep me in that perfect peace which you have promised to those whose minds are fixed on you; and give me such a sense of your presence, that in the hours of silence I may enjoy the blessed assurance of your love; through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

In the Morning

This is another day, O Lord. I know not what it will bring forth, but make me ready, Lord, for whatever it may be. If I am to stand up, help me to stand bravely. If I am to sit still, help me to sit quietly. If I am to lie low, help me to do it patiently. And if I am to do nothing, let me do it gallantly. Make these words more than words, and give me the Spirit of Jesus. Amen.

In the Evening

Keep watch, dear Lord, with those who work, or watch, or weep this night, and give your angels charge over those who sleep. Tend the sick, Lord Christ; give rest to the weary, bless the dying, soothe the suffering, pity the afflicted, shield the joyous; and all for your love' sake. Amen.

A Child's Prayer

Jesus, our Redeemer, Good Shepherd of the sheep, you carry the lambs in your arms. I place myself in your loving care. Stop my pain, give me help and strength, and raise me up to a life of joy. Hear me, I pray, for your dear Name' sake. Amen.

For a Sick Person

God of all comfort, our very present help in trouble, be near to me. Look on me with the eyes of your mercy; comfort me with a sense of your presence; preserve me from the enemy; and give me patience in my affliction. Restore me to health, and lead me to your eternal glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

For Mother and Unborn Baby

Gracious God, guard and protect both mother and child as the day for delivery draws ever closer and keep them from all the perils and dangers of this life, looking to Jesus in Whom is life and light and help and wholeness. We ask this in Jesus' name, Amen.

For Protection

Christ, light of light, brightness indescribable, the Wisdom, power and glory of God, the Word made flesh: you overcame the forces of Satan, redeemed the world, then ascended again to the

Father. Grant me, I pray, in this tarnished world, the shining of your splendor. Send your Archangel Michael to defend me, to guard my going out and coming in, and to bring me safely to your presence, where you reign in the one holy and undivided Trinity, to ages of ages. Amen.

For One Suffering from Mental Distress

Blessed Jesus, in the comfort of your love, I lay before you the memories that haunt me, the anxieties that perplex me, the despair that frightens me, and my frustration at my inability to think clearly. Help me to discover your forgiveness in my memories and know your peace in my distress.

Touch me, O Lord, and fill me with your light and your hope. Amen.

For Recovery from Sickness

God, the strength of the weak and the comfort of those who suffer: Hear my prayers and grant me the power of your grace, that my sickness may be turned into health, and my sorrow into joy; for Jesus Christ' sake. Amen.

For Strength and Confidence

Gracious God, only source of life and health: Help, comfort, and relieve me, and give your power of healing to those who minister to my needs; that my weakness may be turned to strength and confidence in your loving care; for the sake of Jesus Christ. Amen.

For Rest

O God my refuge and strength: in this place of unrelenting light and noise, enfold me in your holy darkness and silence, that I may rest secure under the shadow of your wings. Amen.

For Sanctification of Illness

Sanctify, O Holy One, my sickness, that awareness of weakness may add strength to my faith and determination to my repentance; and grant that I may be made whole, according to your will; through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

Before an Operation

Loving God, I pray that you will comfort me in my suffering, lend skill to the hands of my healers, and bless the means used for my cure. Give me such confidence in the power of your grace, that even when I am afraid, I may put my whole trust in you; through our Savior Jesus Christ. Amen.

For an Extended Course of Treatment

Strengthen me, O God, to go where I have to go and bear what I have to bear; that, accepting your healing gifts at the hands of surgeons, nurses, and technicians, I may be restored to wholeness with a thankful heart; through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

For Survivors of Abuse and Violence

Holy One, you do not distance yourself from the pain of your people, but in Jesus bear that pain with us and bless all who suffer at others' hands. Hallow my flesh and all creation; with your cleansing love bring me healing and strength; and by your justice, lift me up, that in the body you have given me, I may again rejoice. In Jesus' name I pray. Amen.

In Times of Personal Distress

Lord Christ, you came into the world as one of us, and suffered as we do. As I go through the trials of life, help me to realize that you are with me at all times and in all things; that I have no secrets from you; and that your loving grace enfolds me for eternity.

In the security of your embrace I pray. Amen.

Thanksgiving for Recovery

God, your loving-kindness never fails and your mercies are new every morning. I thank you for giving me relief from pain and hope of health renewed. Continue the good work begun in me; that increasing daily in wholeness and strength, I may rejoice in your goodness and so order my life always to think and do that which pleases you; through Jesus Christ our Redeemer. Amen.

For One Who Fears Losing Hope

Loving God, by your Holy Spirit inspire me, as I fear losing hope. Give me a fresh vision of your love, that I may find again what I fear I have lost. Grant me your powerful deliverance; through the One who makes all things new, Jesus Christ our Redeemer. Amen.

For Those Who Are Developmentally Disabled

Giver of all grace, we pray your peace, which passes all understanding, for us who are developmentally disabled. Grant that we may always be sustained in love, our gifts honored, and our difficulties understood, that none may add to our troubles. We ask this in the name of the one who comforted those who were troubled in mind, Jesus our Savior. Amen.

In Thanksgiving

In the midst of illness, God, I pause to give you thanks: for the glory of creation, which reveals in many forms your matchless beauty; for the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus our Savior; for your gift of my life and the presence of the Holy Spirit; for loved ones who care for me; and for the companionship of the Church. I thank you, blessed Trinity, holy God, for the gifts which sustain me in my time of need. Amen.

In Confinement

My Creator, you rolled out the heavens and spread the sky like a tent: bless to me the small confinement of this room, the long days, disturbances of night, immobility of body, and unease of soul, that this place of exile may become my holy ground, and Jesus my deliverer. Amen.

For Serenity

Merciful Jesus, you are my guide, the joy of my heart, the author of my hope, and the object of my love. I come seeking refreshment and peace. Show me your mercy, relieve my fears and anxieties, and grant me a quiet mind and an expectant heart, that by the assurance of your presence I may learn to abide in you, who is my Lord and my God. Amen.

A Prayer of Comfort in God

God, you are my help and comfort; you shelter and surround me in love so tender that I may know your presence with me, now and always. Amen.

For Diagnosis of Terminal Illness

O God, only you number my days. Help me to look bravely at the end of my life in this world, while trusting in my life in the next. Journey with me toward my unexplored horizon where Jesus my Savior has gone before. Amen.

For Difficult Treatment Choices

Jesus, at Gethsemane you toiled with terrifying choices. Be with me now as I struggle with a fearful choice of treatments which promise much discomfort and offer no guarantee of long-term good. Help me know that you will bless my choice to me, and, good Savior, be my companion on the way. Amen.

At the Limits of Our Power to Help

O Lord, we are at the limits of our power to help. For what we have left undone, forgive us. For what you have helped us to do, we thank you. For what must be done by others, lend your strength. Now shelter us in your peace which passes our understanding. Amen.

God of all power and love,
we give thanks for your unfailing presence
and the hope you provide in times of uncertainty and loss.
Send your Holy Spirit to enkindle in us your holy fire.
Revive us to live as Christ's body in the world:
a people who pray, worship, learn,
break bread, share life, heal neighbors,
bear good news, seek justice, rest and grow in the Spirit.
Wherever and however we gather,
unite us in common prayer and send us in common mission,
that we and the whole creation might be restored and renewed,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.