**Prayers during this outbreak**

Keep us, good Lord,

under the shadow of your mercy

in this time of uncertainty and worry.

Strengthen and support the anxious and fearful,

and lift up all who are brought low;

that we may find peace in your comfort

knowing that your love conquers all

in Jesus’ name.

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 care for the sick,

and to assure the isolated

of our love, and your love,

for your name’s sake.

Amen.

God of compassion,

be close to those who are ill, afraid or in isolation.

In their loneliness, be their consolation;

in their anxiety, be their hope;

in their darkness, be their light;

through him who suffered alone on the cross,

but reigns with you in glory,

Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

**For those who are ill**

Merciful God,

we entrust to your unfailing and tender care,

those who are ill or in pain,

knowing that whenever danger threatens

your everlasting arms are there to hold us safe.

Comfort and heal them,

and restore them to health and strength;

through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

**For hospital staff and medical researchers**

Gracious God,

give skill, sympathy and resilience

to all who are caring for the sick,

and 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 the Christian community**

We are not people of fear:
we are people of courage.
We are not people who protect our own safety:
we are people who protect our neighbours’ safety.
We are not people of greed:
we are people of generosity.
We are your people God,
giving and loving,
wherever we are,
whatever it costs
For as long as it takes
wherever you call us.

Amen

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.**

**Prayers with children**

**A prayer for when a friend is ill**

Dear God, my friend (*name*) is ill.

They are not allowed out or to come over to play.

I’m sad because I miss them.

They must be feeling miserable and lonely as well.

Please be close to them.

Please be with the people who are looking after them.

Please help them to get better and to know that you love them.

Amen.

**A prayer for the world**

God of love and hope, you made the world and care for all creation,
but the world feels strange right now.
The news is full of stories about Coronavirus.
Some people are worried that they might get ill.
Others are worried for their family and friends.
Be with them and help them to find peace.
We pray for the doctors and nurses and scientists,
and all who are working to discover the right medicines to help those who are ill.
Thank you that even in these anxious times you are with us.
Help us to put our trust in you and keep us safe.

Amen.

**A prayer to begin the day**

Lord God, you are always with me.

You are with me in the day and in the night.

You are with me when I’m happy and when I’m sad.

You are with me when I’m healthy and when I am ill.

You are with me when I am peaceful and when I am anxious.

Today I am feeling (name how you are feeling) because (reasons for feelings).

Help me to remember that you love me and are with me in everything today.

Amen.

**A prayer at bedtime**

As we go to bed, thank you that you keep watch over us.

Tonight we pray especially for (*names family or friends who are affected by coronavirus*) and the people of (*country or place which is affected by coronavirus*).

Give skill and wisdom to all who are caring for them.

Bless us and them with peace and restful sleep.

Amen.

**Personal Prayers**

**A prayer to begin the day**

Lord Jesus Christ, you said to your disciples,
‘I am with you always’.
Be with me today, as I offer myself to you.
Hear my prayers for others and for myself,
and keep me in your care.

Amen

**Before going to sleep**

God our Father, by whose mercy
the world turns safely into darkness and returns again to light:
we place in your hands our unfinished tasks,
our unsolved problems, and our unfulfilled hopes,
knowing that you continue your work to bless us.
To your love and protection we commit each other and all those we love,
knowing that you alone are our sure defender,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

Christ be with me, Christ within me,

Christ behind me, Christ before me,

Christ beside me, Christ to win me,

Christ to comfort and restore me.

Christ beneath me, Christ above me,

Christ in quiet, Christ in danger,

Christ in hearts of all that love me,

Christ in mouth of friend and stranger.

*(from St Patrick’s Breastplate)*

**Short passages of Scripture for reading and contemplation**

Psalm 27 The Lord is my light and my salvation

Psalm 46 Be still, and know that I am God.

Psalm 91 He shall cover you with his wings

Psalm 139 O Lord, you have searched me out and known me

Isaiah 43 (esp vv.1-7) Do not fear, for I am with you

John 14 Do not let your hearts be troubled

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