



Exercising Good Stewardship of Prayer during a Crisis:

Dear ICSC members and friends,

As good stewards of God's grace during this Lenten season, let us be united in prayer and hope during these stressful times.

We pray for all those who have been affected by COVID-19 (Coronavirus), for their healing and comfort, and for strength and peace for their families.

We pray for those who have passed away because of the virus and those who mourn for them.

We pray for health care workers, first responders, all who are and will offer compassionate service and healing in the days and weeks to come.

We pray for those who are working to contain the spread of the virus.

We pray for our local and national health care and government officials as we continue to rely on their prudence and good judgement.

We pray for those who face economic adversity due to the virus, especially those who may lose much-needed pay or even lose a job.

And, we pray for those who suffer anxiety, fear and loneliness. May they feel God's embrace!

Accompanying this message is a small collection of prayers you may find helpful.

If you have any prayers you would like to share with the ICSC family, please feel free to share them at icsc@catholicstewardship.org. We will be eager to post them.

You and your loved ones are in our prayers. Please keep us in your prayers as well.

In Christ,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael Murphy", is positioned above the typed name.

Michael Murphy
Executive Director
International Catholic Stewardship Council

Prayer to Mary During the Coronavirus Pandemic

Our Holy Father, Pope Francis

O Mary,
you always shine on our path
as a sign of salvation and of hope.
We entrust ourselves to you, Health of the Sick,
who at the cross took part in Jesus' pain, keeping your faith firm.
You, Salvation of the Roman People,
know what we need,
and we are sure you will provide
so that, as in Cana of Galilee,
we may return to joy and to feasting
after this time of trial.
Help us, Mother of Divine Love,
to conform to the will of the Father
and to do as we are told by Jesus,
who has taken upon himself our sufferings
and carried our sorrows
to lead us, through the cross,
to the joy of the Resurrection.
Amen.

Novena Prayer for an End to the Coronavirus Pandemic

*Adapted from a prayer by:
Most Reverend Douglas J. Lucia
Bishop of Syracuse, New York*

O Mary, full of grace, Patroness of this nation and Mother of the Church, in this time of illness and worldwide need we seek your intercession for the human family before your Son's throne of grace and mercy. We ask for strength in adversity, health in weakness, and comfort in sorrow. Help us, O Blessed Mother, to be filled with confidence and trust in the tender compassion of our God. Let us not be afraid. Continue to watch over all who are sick as well as those who care for them and give wisdom to all who are seeking a cure. We ask this through Christ, our Lord.
Amen.

Prayer in the Time of the Coronavirus

*Most Reverend José H. Gomez
Archbishop of Los Angeles, California*

Holy Virgin of Guadalupe,
Queen of the Angels and Mother of the Americas.
We fly to you today as your beloved children.
We ask you to intercede for us with your Son,
as you did at the wedding in Cana.

Pray for us, loving Mother,
and gain for our nation and world,
and for all our families and loved ones,
the protection of your holy angels,
that we may be spared the worst of this illness.
For those already afflicted,
we ask you to obtain the grace of healing and deliverance.
Hear the cries of those who are vulnerable and fearful,
wipe away their tears and help them to trust.

In this time of trial and testing,
teach all of us in the Church to love one another and to be patient and kind.
Help us to bring the peace of Jesus to our land and to our hearts.

We come to you with confidence,
knowing that you truly are our compassionate mother,
health of the sick and cause of our joy.
Shelter us under the mantle of your protection,
keep us in the embrace of your arms,
help us always to know the love of your Son, Jesus.
Amen.