

**SAINT JOHN XXIII PARISH—CLOSED FOR NOW**

*Pastor:* (Rev) Simon deGale; *Secretary:* Ms Hayde Ayala; *Office:* 416-429-4000; *Hours:* Fr Simon is monitoring phones.

*Email:* [saintjohnxx\\_iiiparish@outlook.com](mailto:saintjohnxx_iiiparish@outlook.com). *Website:* <http://saintjohnxxiiiparish.ca/>

*ShareLife:* <https://www.sharelife.org/Public/Home.aspx>



**PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS**

Lord Jesus, as you once called the first disciples to make them fishers of men, let Your sweet invitation continue to resound: Come follow Me!

Give young men and women the grace of responding quickly to Your voice.

Support our bishops, priests, and consecrated people in their apostolic labour.

Grant perseverance to our seminarians and to all those who are carrying out the ideal of a life totally consecrated to Your service.

Awaken in our community a missionary eagerness.

Lord, send workers to Your harvest and do not allow humanity to be lost for the lack of pastors, missionaries, and people dedicated to the cause of the Gospel.

Mary, Mother of the Church, the model of every vocation, help us to say “yes” to the Lord who calls us to cooperate in the divine plan of salvation.

Amen.

-Pope St John Paul II

**Sunday Mass**—CANCELLED FOR NOW—Fr Simon says daily Mass for your intentions.

**Baptism**—EMERGENCY: see front page of website: <http://saintjohnxxiiiparish.ca/>

**Reconciliation (confession)**—BY APPOINTMENT: 416-429-4000

**Anointing of the Sick**—EMERGENCIES CALL 416-429-4000 OR 416-737-0760

**Marriage:** See Fr Simon before setting a date.

**RCIA :** If you know someone who wishes to become Catholic speak to priest.

**Catholic Cemeteries:** Head Office: 416-733-8544

SEE PAGE 9 &amp; 10 &amp; 11 FOR PRAYERS

HERE ARE 5 WAYS TO KEEP SUNDAY HOLY  
IN COVID 19 TIMES**1. Watch a live-stream of the Mass**

The Archbishop, Cardinal Collins, will be live-streaming daily Mass from St. Michael's Cathedral Basilica at 7:30 a.m. Monday through to Sunday.

While digital participation can never replace actual presence at Mass, live-stream Mass <https://www.archtoronto.org> is a great way of keeping our connection with the Mass when it is not possible to be there in person. We can make an offering in our heart to be united spiritually to this offering, which is more spiritually efficacious than any other prayer. We should silence our phones, eliminate (as best we can!) distractions in our home, and try to give all of our attention to what is happening at the Mass so we can fully participate in this remote way.

**2. Make a spiritual communion**

An ancient practice of the Church for those who cannot be present at Mass is to make a spiritual communion. We have a simple prayer you can pray with longing in your heart to be united to Jesus.

*My Jesus, I believe that you are present in the most Blessed Sacrament. I love You above all things and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot now receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You were already there, and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.* St. Alphonsus Liguori

**3. Read the Sunday readings as a family**

These can easily be found at [usccb.org/bible](https://usccb.org/bible). by clicking on "Today's Readings." Magnificat (a daily prayer book) is also offering free digital resources during this time, including the Sunday readings and a reflection.

Reading Scripture individually or together with others—especially in our families—is an excellent spiritual practice. Catholics "commit to forming your family in the love and power of sacred Scripture by placing it at the centre of your family life. Study and reflect on Scripture, especially on the Sunday readings." Archbishop Vigneron

**4. Check in on those around you**

Because those who are older are most susceptible to complications from COVID-19, health officials are encouraging them to minimize their time away from home. It is a great act of charity to reach out to these brothers and sisters in our faith communities to check in on them. Do they need groceries or help with something in their homes? Caring for each other — especially those who are most vulnerable during this time — is a demand of the

Gospel. It is the enactment of our life as joyful missionary disciples.

**5. Pray a family Rosary**

Reclaim the Rosary as a way to be united to Mary, the Mother of Jesus and the Mother of the Church. She is the perfect model of a disciple and our great intercessor. If you don't know how to pray this prayer, check out the youtube video from the Franciscan Friars of the Renewal and pray along with them.

## LITURGICAL MUSICIANS

## Online Meeting

From: Rebecca Spellacy, Associate Director,  
Liturgy

This time of pandemic means we cannot physically be together for worship. It has caused us to find new ways to stay connected to the life of the Church and to grow in our relationship with God.

All current Music Ministers are invited to join us on Saturday, May 30 from 10 to 11:30 a.m. for a chance to share with each other our journey thus far. We will also share some practical tips and resources to continue growing as disciples of Christ.

This is a free online video conference.

However, we ask that you please register in advance, so we know you'll be attending. Once you register, you will receive information on how to join the web call.

Please register online at: <https://bit.ly/Music-WebMtg-May2020>. There is no cost to join. Further information on how to join the web meeting will be provided upon registration.

If you have any further questions, please contact Ella Okonkwo at: [formation@archtoronto.org](mailto:formation@archtoronto.org) or 416-934-3400 ext. 523. Please note that our office is currently working remotely.

CANCELLED  
TOTUS TUUS

Regretfully, August, 2020, Totus Tuus is now cancelled because the "shutdown" is preventing the training and preparation of the leaders for the summer.

## MASS INTENTIONS

Mon, May 4: 7:30AM

+Carmencita Corpuz

Tues, May 5: 7:30AM

*Thanksgiving of Laura Worbec; (Julie Cruz)*

Wed, May 6: 7:30AM

+Samuel Jareno

Thurs, May 7: 7:30AM

+Beatrice Reynolds

Fri, May 8: 7:30AM

*Available*

Sat, May 9: 7:30AM

Thanksgiving for SdG's service of 12 yrs

**Sunday, May 10****7:30AM:**

+Deceased Members of Sandhurst &amp; Raj Families

+Petra Damasco Perlas

*The Parishioners*

## VIGIL CANDLES

**Saturday, May 9—Friday, May 15.**Sanctuary Tabernacle—+Domingo & +Teresa  
& Chapel Tabernacle—The Parishioners

## INTERCESSORY PRAYER GROUP

***Need Prayer Help?***

Call Beth: 416-467-6492. Intention will be emailed out to this prayer community. Only first name &amp; intention will be shared.

## SACRAMENT OF HOLY CONFIRMATION

***Cancelled—TO BE RESCHEDULED.***

## SACRAMENTS OF FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

***Cancelled—TO BE RESCHEDULED***

## CHALICE CHILDREN'S COLLECTION

**February Collection: \$266.50**

## COMMUNION FOR THE SICK &amp; SHUT-INS

**CALL PARISH OFFICE AND LET US KNOW—  
416-429-4000. SUSPENDED FOR NOW**EXTRAORDINARY MINISTER OF HOLY  
COMMUNION***(Eucharistic Ministers)******Faith and Resource Sharing Meeting****From: Rebecca Spellacy, Associate Director, Liturgy*

This time of pandemic means we cannot physically be together for worship. It has caused us to find new ways to stay connected to the life of the Church and to grow in our relationship with God. All current Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion are invited to join us on Saturday, May 16, 2020, from 10 to 11:30 a.m. for a chance to share with each other our journey thus far. We will also share some practical tips and resources to continue growing as disciples of Christ.

Please register online at: <https://bit.ly/EMHC-WebMtg-May2020>. There is no cost to join. Further information on how to join the web meeting will be provided upon registration.

If you have any further questions, please contact Ella Okonkwo at: [formation@archtoronto.org](mailto:formation@archtoronto.org) or 416-934-3400 ext. 523. Please note that our office is currently working remotely.

## LECTORS

***Online Meeting****From: Rebecca Spellacy, Associate Director, Liturgy*

This time of pandemic means we cannot physically be together for worship. It has caused us to find new ways to stay connected to the life of the Church, and to grow in our relationship with God. All current Lectors are invited to join us on Saturday, May 23 from 10 to 11:30 a.m. for a chance to share with each other our journey thus far. We will also share some practical tips and resources to continue growing as disciples of Christ.

Please register online at: <https://bit.ly/Lectors-WebMtg-May2020>. There is no cost to join. Further information on how to join the web meeting will be provided upon registration.

If you have any further questions please contact Ella Okonkwo at: [formation@archtoronto.org](mailto:formation@archtoronto.org) or at 416-934-3400 ext. 523. Please note that our office is currently working remotely.

## SMILE



### THEOLOGY ON TAP ONLINE-SPECIAL EDITION

**May 4—7PM—9PM**

Title: The Art of Listening to God in a Wounded World  
Speakers: Fr. Santo Arrigo, C.Ss.R, Kevin Kelly, SJ, and Megan Turland. Faith Connections is thrilled to welcome back three Guest Speakers for a Special Edition Theology on Tap Panel! We will be reflecting on their past talks in light of the COVID-19 pandemic and discussing what we can bring forward into the world and our lives once the storm has passed.

Zoom link coming soon.

Check back to our Facebook Events page for more information and Zoom link: <https://www.facebook.com/events/649307665889193/>

### YTOL Online May Retreat

**May 15—May 18**

Facebook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/events/2718878264901442/>

Our annual May retreat is FAST approaching, and this time around, the topic will be on the very awesome Foster Father of Christ, SAINT JOSEPH! This retreat will be totally online (Yay, no paying for gas!).

“Well,” you might be asking yourself, “What will this retreat entail? What am I going to get out of this? What does an online YTOL retreat look like?” And boy, do we have answers for you! You’ll be getting:

- Live streamed Mass and prayer sessions!
- Conferences by priests and awesome Catholic public speakers!
- A chance to enter into the Faith and Life of St. Joseph!
- Virtual discussions and Q

#### Registration

<https://forms.gle/Ar7QMNx3Go4B2QBe6>

### PRAYER

**Mercy. Ask. Thanksgiving. Adoration.**

(M. A. T. A.)

Begin with seeking *Mercy*. / Continue by *Asking* for grace. / Move on to be amazed and *Thankful* for all His gifts. / Finally, Marvel in *Adoration* of His holy light.  
(Don't be surprised if your prayer does not follow the above order)

### THE WISDOM OF POPE, SAINT JOHN XXIII

“Consult not your fears but your hopes and your dreams. Think not about your frustrations, but about your unfulfilled potential. Concern yourself not with what you tried and failed in, but with what it is still possible for you to do”

### PRAY FOR THE HOLY FATHER, POPE FRANCIS', MAY MISSION INTENTION

**For Deacons**

We pray that deacons, faithful in their service to the Word and the poor, may be an invigorating symbol for the entire Church

### OUR REFUGEE FAMILY

**DELAYED**

Our Family have been told they cannot travel to Canada until COVID 19 is over.

**Donations**

GTA Iraqi Community: \$5,000/Anonymous: \$5,000; Parishioners & Parish Fundraisers: \$12,026.15; Parish Bequests: \$23,773.85; Parish Funds: \$500 (processing fees)  
**Total: \$46,300.00**



### DVD LENDING LIBRARY

**Please Return DVDs**

Do you have a DVD at home which you have forgotten to return? Lent it out? Please get them back! Many of the DVDs have been missing for too long.

## SAINTS THIS WEEK

**BLESSED MARIE-LEONIE PARADIS, VIRGIN:**

*Optional Memorial; Monday, May 4*— Elodie Paradis was born in the village of L'Acadie in Quebec, Canada. Her parents were poor but good Catholics and they loved their little girl. When Elodie was nine, her parents wanted her to have the best education they could afford, so they sent her to a boarding school. The Sisters of Notre Dame warmly received their new student but Elodie and her family missed each other very



much.

Mr. Paradis had a flour mill and although he worked hard, the mill did not make enough money to support his wife and children. He heard wonderful stories about large amounts of gold that was to be found in California. He was so worried about his family that he decided to go.

But in California, Mr. Paradis did not find the wealth he hoped for. When he returned to L'Acadie, he was shocked to find that his little Elodie had joined the convent to become a nun. She had entered the Holy Cross convent on February 21, 1854. Mr. Paradis went to the convent and he begged his daughter to return home, but she really wanted to stay there. Finally, her father agreed and she took her vows as a nun in 1857.

Blessed Marie-Leonie taught school in different cities. She prayed and lived her life joyfully. As time went on, Sister Marie-Leonie was led by Jesus to begin a new religious order in the Church. The Little Sisters of the Holy Family were begun in 1880. These loving sisters are committed to serving and caring for priests in the household. This helps the priest to carry out their important ministries without difficulty. The Little Sisters of the Holy Family now have sixty-seven convents in Canada, the United States, Rome and Honduras.

Although Mother Marie Leonie was weak and often sick, she worked for her sisters until the last few hours of her life. But she never stopped caring for God's people. She completed the book of rules she had written to help give her sisters the guidance they would need for their life.

On Friday, May 3, 1912. Mother Marie-Leonie said she felt very tired. She went to rest and died a few hours later. She was seventy-one years old.

**ST FRANCOIS DE LAVAL, BISHOP, PATRON OF THE BISHOPS OF CANADA:** *Memorial; Wednesday May 6*—

**BLESSED CATHERINE OF ST AUGUSTINE, VIRGIN:** *Optional Memorial; Friday, May 8*—A young future

missionary to New France, Catherine de Longpré, in religion Sister Marie-Catherine of Saint Augustine, was a nursing nun in the community of the Hospitaller Sisters of Saint Augustine in Evreux. Born in France in 1632, she went to Quebec at the age of sixteen. Having offered her life for the sick and the sanctification of souls, she found in Quebec City a newly-established and very poor hospital, where she would labour for twenty years with unflinching devotion and courage.

Blessed Catherine's physical and moral sufferings increased to a measure which few Saints have surpassed; she was chosen as a victim by God for the expiation of sins, in this territory which He destined for Himself in a particular way. To sustain her in the terrible obsessions which she endured, to preserve other souls who could not have withstood hell's assaults, she was given for her heavenly spiritual director, Saint John de Brebeuf, the North American martyr who had died not long before, in what is now Ontario. The entire history of her interior life was written by her confessor, the Jesuit Paul Ragueneau, who had been a friend of the great Martyr and had laboured with him. Father Ragueneau recognized as authentic his fellow Jesuit's spiritual role in the life of this remarkable religious.

The sale of alcoholic beverages to the Indians in exchange for furs was a grievous abuse which the saintly first bishop of Quebec, Monsignor Francis Montmorency de Laval, was striving to abolish; sins of the tongue, immodesty and impiety were rampant in the city and surroundings. Monsignor de Laval recognized in Sister Catherine a soul of predilection, and he often asked her intercession for particular persons, for the colony and the Indians, whose souls were his great concern, as they were also of his clergy and missionaries. She, for her part, complied by her prayers and sacrifices, and saw in vision how the demons of hell were working for the ruin of the colony, in various places and in various ways. A spiritual battle of great proportions was underway, to win Canada for Christ.



Blessed Catherine died at the age of 36, saying shortly before she expired: My God, I adore Your divine perfections; I adore Your divine Justice; I abandon myself to it with my whole heart. One of the great mystics of the Church, her life remains a prodigy of sacrifice and love, a gold mine of doctrine for those who seek understanding of God's ways with His Saints and His people.

## “I Am The Gate For The Sheep”

JESUS



**This Sunday's Readings:** *First Reading: Acts of the Apostles 2:14a,36-41—Peter and the other apostles baptize 3,000 people; Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 23:1-6—The Lord is my shepherd; Second Reading: 1 Peter 2:20b-25—We have been healed by the wounds of Christ; Gospel Reading: John 10:1-10—Jesus is the gate for his sheep.*

### Background on the Gospel Reading

This fourth Sunday of the Easter season is sometimes called Good Shepherd Sunday because in each of the three lectionary cycles, the Gospel reading invites us to reflect on Jesus as the Good Shepherd. In each cycle the reading is from the tenth chapter of John's Gospel. This chapter sets the framework for Jesus' teaching about himself as the Good Shepherd.

Today's reading falls between the stories of Jesus' healing of the man born blind and the raising of Lazarus. Both of these stories were proclaimed in the Gospels found in this year's season of Lent. Following the controversy that ensued when Jesus healed the man born blind, Jesus directs his allegory about the sheep and the shepherd toward the Jewish religious leaders of his time, the Pharisees.

Throughout John's Gospel the Pharisees fail to accept Jesus' ministry and teaching. They show themselves to be "robbers and thieves" because they try to lead the sheep without entering through the gate, Jesus. Through these

metaphors, Jesus is telling his listeners that those who follow him and his way will find abundant life. He identifies himself both as the shepherd and the gate. The shepherds who are faithful to him are the ones whom the sheep (Jesus' disciples) should follow.

The relationship between the sheep and their shepherd is based on familiarity. Sheep recognize their shepherd and will not follow a stranger. At the end of the day, shepherds lead their sheep from pastures to a common gated area called a sheepfold. There, one shepherd protects all of the sheep until the next day when each shepherd returns to lead his own sheep to pasture. As shepherds move among the sheep, the sheep follow only their shepherd.

Today's Gospel also gives us the opportunity to reflect on Christian leadership. Jesus' words suggest to us that those who will lead the Christian community will be known by their faithfulness to Jesus. The leaders will recognize that Jesus is the gate for all of the sheep and that having a good relationship with Jesus is the primary characteristic of a Christian leader. Jesus' allegory also suggests that faithful Christian leadership requires a good relationship with the community: the shepherd knows his sheep, and they know him. Christian leaders follow the example of Jesus, the Good Shepherd, by being faithful to him and by being a good shepherd.

ST JOHN XXIII ADORATION CHAPEL  
EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENTVOCATIONS  
4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter

***The Good Shepherd calls his own sheep by name and leads them.***

Is He asking you to help others to find Him? Pray for an increase in vocations to the priesthood, diaconate, and religious life, especially for our archdiocese, that God will raise up good shepherds in our midst. If God is calling you, contact Fr. Chris Lemieux, Vocation Director, Archdiocese of Toronto at 416-968-0997  
[vocations@archtoronto.org](mailto:vocations@archtoronto.org) [www.vocationstoronto.ca](http://www.vocationstoronto.ca)

## THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT

***Last Sunday's Offering—\$2875. ShareLife to Date—\$550.  
Easter Collection to Date—\$1150.***

*Please continue your weekly donations if your income is not affected by the current situation.*

## DONATIONS

**3 options for donating.**

1. You can donate online through "Interact e-transfer". To do this—Go to your online bank account. Choose "interact e-transfer"; in the section "Send money to" add the parish email address: [saintjohnxx\\_iiiparish@outlook.com](mailto:saintjohnxx_iiiparish@outlook.com); in "Notify By" you can give either Fr Simon's mobile number: 416-737-0760 Or email address: [degale.s.7@gmail.com](mailto:degale.s.7@gmail.com).

When you donate your bank will ask you to send a "password" which will be sent either to Fr Simon's email address or mobile number. I will then be able deposit the funds into the parish account. Your bank will then notify you that your donation has been accepted.

2. Or you can donate by dropping off your envelope at the mail box at the front door of Church—call office 416-429-4000 when you do this and I will come out and pickup;

3. Or you can mail your donation—St John XXIII Church, 150 Gateway Blvd, Toronto, M3C 1B1.

## SHARELIFE

**Living the Gospel by  
putting faith into action**

"ShareLife is the way the  
rubber hits the road.

This is how we validate the  
legitimacy and integrity of  
our Christian life:  
not by the words we speak,  
but by the love we share, in  
practical ways.

That's what we do with  
ShareLife."

—Cardinal Thomas Collins

**Today is ShareLife Sunday.  
Thank you for your  
generosity.**

## FR SIMON'S TRANSFER DELAYED

**Dear Parishioners,**

Due to the current situation of uncertainty and anxiety, the Archbishop, Cardinal Collins, wants priests to remain with their communities until things settle down. Therefore, my transfer to the North West Territories will not take place in June as previously planned. The plan at the moment is for the transfer to take place in August. But, as with all things, it will happen in Jesus' time. Meanwhile, let us continue to pray for one another and the world. Peace, Fr Simon

**NEW PASTOR****Hopefully in August, 2020**

Who the new pastor will be has not yet been decided. *Let us pray for him.* If we do this together, he will become a blessing to JXXIII.

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ADORATION OF OUR LORD IN THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

*Takes place in the Adoration Chapel*

Every Friday: 9AM to evening prayer and 5:40PM. Come for a hour and keep watch others, the Church,



6PM, concludes with Benediction at few minutes or an with the Lord. Pray for your family, yourself.

Your Fellow Parishioner  
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 SENIOR REAL ESTATE SPECIALIST

Looking to Buy or Sell your Home or Invest in this lucrative Real Estate market?  
 Senior citizen looking to downsize or re-invest?  
 As a "SRES" (Senior Real Estate Specialist) I can help!  
 Renting? Why not Rent to Own?  
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 No Down Payment? I Can Help!  
 ✓ Low Commission Rates & Cash Back Plans.  
 ✓ Earn Up to \$1,000 on Referrals.  
 ✓ Upto 10% Commission Donation to the Church.



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**POPE FRANCIS'  
Litany of Supplication**

**WE ADORE YOU, O LORD**

True God and true man, truly present in this Holy Sacrament,  
**We adore you, O Lord.**

Our Savior, God-with-us, faithful and rich in mercy,  
**We adore you, O Lord.**

King and Lord of creation and history,  
**We adore you, O Lord.**

Conqueror of sin and death,  
**We adore you, O Lord.**

Friend of humankind, risen and living at the right hand of the Father,  
**We adore you, O Lord.**

**WE BELIEVE IN YOU, O LORD**

Only begotten Son of the Father, Who descended from Heaven for our salvation,  
**We believe in you, O Lord.**

Heavenly doctor, who inclines over our misery,  
**We believe in you, O Lord.**

Sacrificed Lamb, who offers Himself to save us from evil,

**We believe in you, O Lord.**

Good Shepherd, who gives his life for the flock he loves,  
**We believe in you, O Lord.**

Living bread and medicine of immortality, who gives us Life eternal,  
**We believe in you, O Lord.**

**FREE US, O LORD**

From the power of Satan and the seductions of the world,  
**Free us, O Lord.**

From pride and from the presumption that we can do without you,  
**Free us, O Lord.**

From the deceptions of fear and anguish,  
**Free us, O Lord.**

From unbelief and despair,  
**Free us, O Lord.**

From hardness of heart and the incapacity to love,  
**Free us, O Lord.**

**SAVE US, O LORD**  
From all the evils that afflict humanity,  
**Save us, O Lord.**  
From hunger, famine and egoism,  
**Save us, O Lord.**  
From disease, epidemics and fear of

our brothers and sisters,  
**Save us, O Lord.**  
From devastating folly, from merciless interests and from violence,  
**Save us, O Lord.**  
From deception, misinformation and manipulation of consciences,  
**Save us, O Lord.**

**CONSOLE US, O LORD**

Look upon your Church, which is crossing the desert,  
**Console us, O Lord.**  
Look upon humanity, terrified by fear and anguish,  
**Console us, O Lord.**

Look upon the sick and dying, oppressed by loneliness,  
**Console us, O Lord.**

Look upon doctors and health care workers, overwhelmed by fatigue,  
**Console us, O Lord.**

Look upon politicians and administrators, who bear the weight of decisions,  
**Console us, O Lord.**

**GIVE US YOUR SPIRIT, O LORD**

In the hour of trial and confusion,

**Give us your Spirit, O Lord.**

In temptation and in weakness,  
**Give us your Spirit, O Lord.**

In the battle against evil and sin,  
**Give us your Spirit, O Lord.**

In the search for true good and true joy,  
**Give us your Spirit, O Lord.**

In the decision to remain in You and in Your friendship,  
**Give us your Spirit, O Lord.**

**OPEN US TO HOPE, O LORD**

If sin oppresses us,  
**Open us to hope, O Lord.**

If hate closes our hearts,  
**Open us to hope, O Lord.**

If suffering visits us,  
**Open us to hope, O Lord.**

If indifference distresses us,  
**Open us to hope, O Lord.**

If death annihilates us,  
**Open us to hope, O Lord.**

**CORONA VIRUS PRAYER**

Jesus Christ, you traveled through towns and villages "curing every disease and illness." At your command, the sick were made well. Come to our aid now, in the midst of the global spread of the coronavirus, that we may experience your healing love. Heal those who are sick with the virus. May they regain their strength and health through quality medical care. Heal us from our fear, which prevents nations from working together and neighbours from helping one another. Heal us from our pride, which can make us claim invulnerability to a disease that knows no borders.

Jesus Christ, you traveled through towns and villages "curing every disease and illness." Come to our aid now, that we may experience your healing love. Jesus Christ, healer of all, stay by our side in this time of uncertainty and sorrow. Be with those who have died from the virus. May they be at rest with you in your eternal peace. Be with the families of those who are sick or have died. As they worry and grieve, defend them from illness and despair. May they know your peace. Be with the doctors, nurses, researchers, medical professionals, and support workers who seek to heal and help those affected and who put themselves at risk in the process. May they know your protection and peace.

Be with the leaders of all nations. Give them the foresight to act with charity and true concern for the well-being of the people they are meant to serve. Give them the wisdom to invest in long-term solutions that will help prepare for or prevent future outbreaks. May they know your peace, as they work together to achieve it on earth.

Whether we are home or abroad, surrounded by many people suffering from this illness or only a few, Jesus Christ, stay with us as we endure and mourn, persist and prepare. In place of our anxiety, give us your peace.

Jesus Christ, heal us.

-AMERICA MAGAZINE

**MIRACULOUS HELP**

The first known miracle worked by Our Lady was at the wedding feast of Cana when she obtained from her Son the conversion of water into wine. So, too, she can obtain a miraculous intercession with her Son for our poor Creation.

**Prayer for Protection in Time of Pandemic...**

O Mary, you always brighten 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 while remaining steadfast in faith.

O loving Mother, you know what we need, and we are confident you will provide for us as at Cana in Galilee. Intercede for us with your Son Jesus, the Divine Physician, for those who have fallen ill, for those who are vulnerable, and for those who have died. Intercede also for those charged with protecting the health and safety of others and for those who are tending to the sick and seeking a cure.

Help us, O Mother of Divine Love, to conform to the will of the Father and to do as we are told by Jesus, who took upon himself our sufferings and carried our sorrows, so as to lead us, through the Cross, to the glory of the Resurrection. Amen.

Under your protection we seek refuge, O Holy Mother of God. In our needs, despise not our petitions, but deliver us always from all dangers, O glorious and blessed Virgin. Amen.

**RECONCILIATION WITH THE LORD IN THE  
ABSENCE OF THE SACRAMENT OF  
CONFESSION****Act of Contrition (traditional)**

O my God, I am heartily sorry for having offended Thee, and I detest all my sins because of thy just punishments, but most of all because they offend Thee, my God, who art all good and deserving of all my love. I firmly resolve with the help of Thy grace to sin no more and to avoid the near occasion of sin. Amen.

**Act of Contrition (alternate form)**

My God, I am sorry for my sins with all my heart. In choosing to do wrong and failing to do good, I have sinned against you whom I should love above all things. I firmly intend, with your help, to do penance, to sin no more, and to avoid whatever leads me to sin. Our Saviour Jesus Christ suffered and died for us. In his name, my God, have mercy.

**Acts of Contrition inspired by the Gospels**

Father of mercy, like the prodigal son I return to you and say: "I have sinned against you and am no longer worthy to be called your child."

Christ Jesus, Saviour of the world, I pray with the repentant thief to whom you promised Paradise: "Lord, remember me in your kingdom."

Holy Spirit, fountain of love, I call on you with trust: "Purify my heart, and help me to walk as a child of light."

Lord Jesus, you opened the eyes of the blind, healed the sick, forgave the sinful woman, and after Peter's denial confirmed him in your love. Listen to my prayer: forgive all my sins, renew your love in my heart, help me to live in perfect unity with my fellow Christians that I may proclaim your saving power to all the world.

**An Act of Contrition to Our Lord Jesus**

Lord Jesus, you chose to be called the friend of sinners. By your saving death and resurrection free me from my sins. May your peace take root in my heart and bring forth a harvest of love, holiness, and truth.

**An Act of Contrition inspired by Psalm 51**

Lord God, in your goodness have mercy on me: do not look on my sins, but take away all my guilt. Create in me a clean heart and renew within me an upright spirit.

**The Jesus Prayer**

Lord Jesus, Son of God, have mercy on me, a sinner.

**AN ACT OF SPIRITUAL COMMUNION**

(In place of receiving Jesus in Holy Communion)

"My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament. I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You." Amen. St. Alphonsus Liguori

**JESUS' WORDS OF CONSOLATION TO US:**

"I am with you always, to the end of the age." (Mt 28:20) & "Let not your hearts be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in me." (Jn 14:10) & "Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? And not one of them will fall to the ground apart from your Father. But even the hairs of your head are all numbered. Fear not, therefore; you are of more value than many sparrows." (Mt 10: 29-31)

**POPE FRANCIS' PRAYER TO MARY**

O Mary, you shine continuously on our journey as a sign of salvation and hope. We entrust ourselves to you, Health of the Sick. At the foot of the Cross you participated in Jesus' pain, with steadfast faith.

You, Salvation of the Roman People, know what we need. We are certain that you will provide, so that, as you did at Cana of Galilee, joy and feasting might return after this moment of trial.

Help us, Mother of Divine Love, to conform ourselves to the Father's will

and to do what Jesus tells us: He who took our sufferings upon Himself, and bore our sorrows to bring us, through the Cross, to the joy of the Resurrection. Amen.

We seek refuge under your protection, O Holy Mother of God. Do not despise our pleas – we who are put to the test – and deliver us from every danger, O glorious and blessed Virgin.

