



Topics for Prayer during Coronavirus lockdown



Knowing how to pray in times of crisis can be difficult, so below are some prayers, themes and topics that you might like to explore in your times of prayer.

These are from prayer requests that we have received in recent days.

A Prayer from the Iona Community

*Ever present God,
bless those suffering from Coronavirus,
and those who care for them.
May they know your healing,
may the dying know your welcome.*

*Bless the scientists searching for solutions,
bless the supermarkets seeking to serve us,
bless governments steering a new course,
may they know wisdom.*

*Bless these new times we now live in;
hold the grief for what is past,
hold the fear of present and future,
that within your love
we may grow in trust and peace. Amen*

We pray for...

All those still working – who are necessarily vulnerable - out there on the frontline - keeping life going for all of us even in a different and restricted way - not just the emergency services - *you can make your own list* - and remember that all these groups are short staffed because of isolation precautions.

Those having to self-isolate because of their symptoms and for their family members restricted alongside them.

Those who are dying from the virus and are unable to have family with them.

The Chaplaincy Team at Stepping Hill Hospital – and all other hospitals and hospices.

Clergy and other celebrants taking funerals.

Schools – teachers and pupils who are still in school being supported whilst parents work in essential services.

Those working in food production and those delivering government emergency aid parcels.

Occupational health teams having to advise seriously ill people by phone.

Those who, despite being seriously ill, are unable to receive the operations and treatments they were expecting to have and who are fearful for the outcome.

Those who have had tests but are unable to get results in the usual way because so much diagnostic effort and expertise is going into testing for Covid 19.

Those who provide food and aid to those who are homeless – for their regular and vulnerable clients and all the users.

Bethlehem - including the Dagher family, who St Matthews supports financially, and all those in places where life was already problematic before this time.

All those in refugee centres where social distancing and hygiene precautions are impossible to maintain.

*Gathered and scattered: **God is with us.**
In suffering and hope: **God is with us.**
Now and always **God is with us.***

from Iona Daily Office

And a thought to ponder...

Is this current togetherness
- in the world - contagious?

(if so...)

Please may we not recover from these symptoms of God alongside,
forgiving our transgressions on creation,
spreading grace, comfort and love.

from Katherine Preston of the Iona Community.
Author of Science and Faith in a Time of Climate Change.