

**The Universal Prayer**  
**22<sup>nd</sup> March 2020**  
**Fourth Sunday of Lent**

The healing of the blind man by Jesus speaks of his concern for his health and his faith. In this trying time of the coronavirus, we pray for healing of bodies and for a renewal of faith in people's hearts.

1. That we will stand with Pope Francis in prayer for all affected by the coronavirus.

**Let us pray to the Lord.**

2. That healing will be granted to those who carry the coronavirus, encouragement for their families and friends, not forgetting those who live with other general and chronic illnesses and disabilities.

**Let us pray to the Lord.**

3. That those involved in the medical care of all the sick, and that those who are promoting the prevention of the spread of the coronavirus will be safe and wise.

**Let us pray to the Lord.**

4. That bishops, priests and deacons, religious and pastoral workers, imams, rabbis and monks, will be devoted to the pastoral and spiritual needs of people in this time of high anxiety.

**Let us pray to the Lord.**

5. That in this time of international crisis people will discover anew the importance of faith, and the consolation of knowing God's love revealed in Jesus, the Healer and Compassionate One.

**Let us pray to the Lord.**

6. That all involved in the continuing war in Syria will seek the way of reconciliation and peace, and that the people who live there, as well as refugees in great poverty, will receive respect and assistance.

**Let us pray to the Lord.**

7. That all who have died of the coronavirus around the world will find peace in God. We also pray for: Richard Mantle and Maureen Buchan recently deceased and Denis Hogan, Aubrey James, Jim McAllister, Angelina Merlino and Brian Meek whose anniversaries now occur.

**Let us pray to the Lord.**

Heavenly Father,  
in your Son Jesus,  
we see the light which guides our way.  
In this time of apprehension and confusion,  
may Jesus show us true wisdom,  
deep compassion,  
and total trust in you,  
for he is Lord, forever and ever.