

Easter Sunday 2020 Intercessions by Stephane McCarthy

God, we ask that all who are affected by this virus be held in your loving care. In this time of uncertainty, help us to know what is ours to do. We know that you did not cause this suffering but that you are with us in it and through it. Help us to recognise your presence in acts of kindness, in moments of silence, and in the beauty of the created world. Grant peace and protection to all of humanity for their well-being and for the benefit of the earth.

Lord hear us...**Lord graciously hear us**

Dear Jesus, as we go through this global crisis, we thank you for the timing of Easter this year. Your suffering and the horror which lead to your death is made more real to us. Even your crown of thorns has greater meaning for us now, because this deadly virus is itself adorned with an outer layer of spikes to attach itself to us, just like a crown, hence its name, corona, Latin for crown. And its victims, our brothers and sisters, who die, die helpless of asphyxia, just like you did on the cross with the two thieves. But just as our brothers and sisters have shared in your suffering on Good Friday, we ask that they too, now, today, on Easter Sunday, be with you rejoicing in paradise.

Lord hear us...**Lord graciously hear us**

Dear Lord at every moment of our lives you invite us into the circle of love within your Holy Trinity where healing of relationships take place. Help us to remember always the wonderful reality that we are never alone, and that thanks to Jesus and your Spirit you the Holy Trinity are in us and we are in you. So that we are one.

Lord hear us...**Lord graciously hear us**

Look down in love, Father, on all children. Keep them from all harm. Inspire their teachers and parents to teach them in love so that they learn through them how much you love them.

Lord hear us...**Lord graciously hear us**

We pray, Father, for all those who are disabled in any way. May they know how precious they are in your sight from the love and support of their fellow Christians.

Lord hear us...**Lord graciously hear us**

Father, we pray for those who are deaf and hard of hearing. As your Son was moved to cure them and thus bring an end to their isolation, give us all the sensitivity and willingness to make them welcome and active in our communities.

Lord hear us...**Lord graciously hear us**

Father, we pray for those whose marriages and relationships have ended in separation or divorce. Heal the wounds in their hearts, Lord, and reassure them of your enduring love.

Lord hear us...**Lord graciously hear us**

We pray for those who are unwell:

Dennis Wiggins, Bernard Stack, Barbara Wilbourn-Smith, Mark Johnson, Carol Crowhurst, Debbie, Malini, Al, Andy, Ellen Cook, Dave Martin, Paul, Suzanne, Tim, Susan Aldridge, Joe Caruana

Rest in Peace:

Canon Jim Birtwhistle, Joan Beagles, David Smith, Terry Asser, Linda Radford

We remember in Years' Mind those who have died:

Bob Baxter, Frederick Octavius Crump, Eileen Page, Arthur Holt,
Jeannette Langton, Robert Addlesee