

April columbine 2020

Lots of prayer ideas in this edition and a poem written especially for this extraordinary time of isolation.



BEAUTIFUL IDEA FOR PALM SUNDAY

How can we publicly acknowledge this important day on our calendar when so many of us will be behind closed doors?

The **Missionaries of the Holy Spirit** posted this idea on their Facebook page:

What if everyone on Sunday April 5 in the morning, puts a branch on the door of their house or on the window, to celebrate Palm Sunday?

It could be any green branch you can get. This would help, despite the social distancing, to be connected as we enter into the Holiest of Weeks.

Want to join?

We may be physically isolated, but not separated. We are united as the body of Christ.

We are the Church.

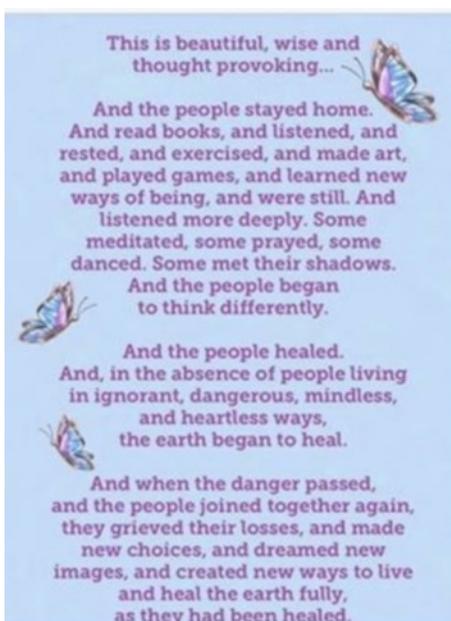
Yes, we are. We've got this. Let's do it.

Thank you Jenni for this idea for this Sunday coming



Divine Mercy Chaplet

The image at the top of the page is of the Divine Mercy and it is recommended we pray thisespecially for those who are dying of the coronavirus ...as they will of necessity be alone. It has been suggested that we place an image of the Divine Mercy in our windows or front doors at this unsettling time. There is also a separate leaflet with this edition of Columbine which includes the Divine Mercy prayer.



Mothers Prayers Corona style

Two on Facetime on their mobiles and one on the landline on loudspeakersorted!

The Magnificat mass booklet is now free online.

Type in us.magnificat.net/free and then scroll down for the UK edition.

Some of us have the paper edition of this. It has all the daily mass readings as well as meditations and information about the saints. Great for Holy Week and beyond - especially now that we have no physical access to mass

Rededication of England as Our Lady's Dowry

The rededication took place on Sunday 29th March at 12 midday. Our nearest mass was Walsingham which was live streamed and is still available on YouTube and on their website www.walsingham.org.uk

As King Richard II once gave England as a gift to Our Lady, so we are invited to give ourselves, as the people of this country, to Mary.

We could respond to the invitation that was given on the day of Rededication in two ways; by making a personal promise and a communal entrustment.

Our personal promise brings us closer to Mary, the first disciple of Christ. In this we unite in her joy by following her openness to God's call.

Our communal entrustment unites us together as the people of our country in prayer, by renewing the vows of dedication made to Mary by our ancestors.

Psalm 130

A song of ascents.

1 Out of the depths I cry to you, Lord;

2 Lord, hear my voice.

Let your ears be attentive
to my cry for mercy.

3 If you, Lord, kept a record of sins,
Lord, who could stand?

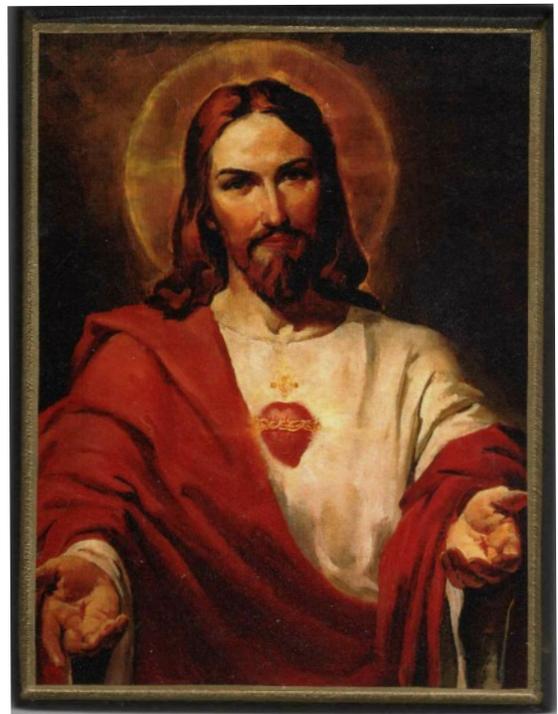
4 But with you there is forgiveness,
so that we can, with reverence, serve you.

5 I wait for the Lord, my whole being waits,
and in his word I put my hope.

6 I wait for the Lord
more than watchmen wait for the morning,
more than watchmen wait for the morning.

7 Israel, put your hope in the Lord,
for with the Lord is unfailing love
and with him is full redemption.

8 He himself will redeem Israel
from all their sins.



The Surrender Novena:

" Jesus , I totally surrender to you , take care of everything....."
Said ten times.

This is another useful prayer. Good for those 3am panicky moments ...

"This simple refrain captured my heart from the first time I heard it. I had never heard of the Surrender Novena—the prayer from which these words were taken—nor of Don Dolindo, its author, but I was so taken with this powerful prayer that"

Worth Googling for the whole article ..

Come Down Moses

poem by Fr Jerome R Nyathi:

When we thought we were powerful,
Corona told us that we were powerless.
When we thought we were 'big' bodies,
Corona reminded us that we are nobodies.
When we considered ourselves giants,
Corona proved to us that we are mere dwarfs.
When we told ourselves that we were everything,
Corona reminded us that we are nothing.
"Remember you are dust and unto dust you shall return!"



When we considered ourselves developed.
Corona proved us underdeveloped.
With all the means of transport,
We found ourselves grounded.
After-all, the Lord commanded us to Rest.

With all the daily chores of our world,
Corona reminded us to value isolation, silence and contemplation.
With all the means of communication,
The virus reminded us that humility is the mother of all virtues.
With all the hygienic means,
We realized that the interior is unclean.
'True, what comes from within a man is unclean!'
With all the crowds in hypocritical prayers,
Corona knocked sense in that there is value in private prayer.
'For the Lord rewards such!'
When we prided ourselves of all the malls,
Corona whispered to us that these are but white elephants.
'Remember, alone you came, alone you shall return!'

In the midst of all freedoms and so-called human rights,
Quarantining won the day.
When countries prided themselves of being superpowers,
Corona made it clear that there is value in connection and dependence.
With all 'big' things in our world,
It's clear 'small' things are 'the things.'
'For greatness comes in small packs!'

Instead of washing our feet at Easter,
We were told to wash our hands as Pilate did.
Hence a mighty challenge;
How clean are our thoughts?
How clean are our actions?
What is humanity all about anyway?