

## PRAYERS OF THANKSGIVING & PASTORAL CONCERN

Dr. Harris

Thank you, O God... even as we face many different crosses in our lives, you promise resurrection through the gift of faith. Thank you... Even as we face many challenges as well as sources of fear and stress, you open up the hearts of others to walk with us and you open up capacities in us we never knew were in us to find new life... Thank you...

Hear us now as we take a moment in prayer to breathe in your resurrection energy into us heart and soul...

And hear us now as we take another moment in silence to thank you for all the reasons we have to be grateful, even in this season of fear, restrictions and uncertainty for the future for all too many of us...

We also pray for the world around us, O God... For all those on the front lines of the battle with Covid 19 working in hospitals, nursing homes and long term care facilities and emergency services...

We pray for those working in grocery stores, pharmacies and other places deemed essential services, where the risks to health can be great...

We pray for those who have lost their employment, whose income is uncertain, who have to pay the bills, who don't know day by day where things will end up financially... Those who may very well lose their business...

We pray for those with children at home and for children themselves, having to figure out how to learn and grow under such restrictive circumstances...

We pray for those who are sick and those whose health is vulnerable, those who must be hospitalized for things that have nothing to do with the covid virus and those who are prevented from having family or friends visit them and therefore feel isolated and alone...

We pray for those who are poor, who don't have access to multiple devices to connect with the wider world or things to occupy their time and do some work...

We pray for those stuck in homes where there is sadness, abuse, mistreatment and fear...

The needs can overwhelm us, O God and we can feel helpless... the world has become that much more a fearful, unstable and uncertain place... work your transformation upon and within us, O God... rather than turn away in fear or indifference, motivate us to get invested

in what's happening and how we can be part of the healing journey within our community and our planet... And most of all, O God, work in us faith in the possibility and reality of resurrection, so that whatever time we are living through, may be a time of newness... Finally, we take a moment to name before you in the silence, those we are carrying especially close in our hearts at this time...

We pray for healing, O God... We pray for growth and new life, O God... And we pray for peace in all its dimensions... And we pray this way in and through the power in the name Jesus... Amen.