



Catholic Archdiocese of Adelaide

March 20, 2020
20/113

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

Earlier this week I met with Archbishop Geoff Smith, Anglican Archbishop of Adelaide and part of our conversation was around being proactive as Christian communities in light of the coronavirus pandemic and the fear and anxiety in the community.

With Bishop O'Kelly's support, we call on our communities to pause for prayer at 8 am every Friday from now until at least Pentecost. This pause can be for just a few minutes to pray for:

- An end to the pandemic
- Healing for people suffering from the illness
- Those researching a vaccine
- Our political and community leaders as they try to provide wise leadership
- Our health workers as they are at the front line

A suitable prayer could be:

**Almighty and All loving God,
Father, Son and Holy Spirit,
We pray to you through Christ the Healer
For those who suffer from the Coronavirus Covid-19
In...and across our world
We pray too for all who reach out to those who mourn the loss
Of each and every person who has died as a result of contracting the disease.
Give wisdom to policymakers,
Skill to healthcare professionals and researchers,
Comfort to everyone in distress
And a sense of calm to us all in these days of uncertainty and distress.
This we ask in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord
Who showed compassion to the outcast,
Acceptance to the rejected and love to those whom no love was shown.
Amen.**

Archbishop Michael Jackson
Dublin & Glendalough

We invite you where possible (and within community regulations) to ring church bells at 8 am on Friday mornings as an audible sign of the Christian community in prayer for the wider community. We will be trying to do some media next week to let the wider community know what we are doing.

Could you please advise your communities and encourage them to join in.

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At a time when many are feeling very helpless prayer is a ministry we can offer to our wider community. I encourage you to join in with the people of your community.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Philip Marshall". The signature is written in a cursive style with a small dash at the end.

Fr Philip Marshall
Administrator Delegate