

Prayer from Italy

God of grace,

we turn to you in prayer in this difficult time
in which the spread of a pandemic infection has forced our governments
restrictive measures that limit the normal course of life,
they block our sociality and risk making us shut up in our increasingly small
sphere,
but they are necessary.

God of love,

help us to maintain community bonds and solidarity with our sisters and
brothers,
especially with those who are in sickness and need,
and help us to be a family for those who are without a family.

God of healing,

we pray for those who have been infected and for their family members,
give them the courage to face this moment of illness;
we pray for all healthcare workers who are spending so much
to manage this epidemic competently and generously,
for scientists who are working hard on a cure in a short time;
give them all strength and vision to face and try to stop this epidemic.

God of mercy,

allow us to live this time as a profitable opportunity to reflect on our
experience of faith
and on our being part of an easy society prey to fear and discouragement in
the face of adversity;
help us, despite the difficulties of this situation, to keep us united and open to
others,
help us not forgetting all the other great tragedies that undermine peace and
disrupt the world.

God of salvation,

we pray you to support us in fighting the chains of exploitation and injustice
and help us to maintain chains of solidarity throughout Europe;
please don't abandon us to the fear of contagion,
but even more to the contagion of fear
for Christ Jesus our brother and saviour.

Amen

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