

Parent and guardian of all, you have been with us since the beginning, shaping our paths, correcting our way, and giving us always a new start. You give us life that seems too good to be true, and even in those dark places of life when it feels that you are gone from us... that we are alone, you are with us still in the darkness. Because you love us so, we are empowered to pray for others.

Hear us now as we speak love into the world, remembering those on our minds and in our hearts, and naming the broken places around us we wish to see healed.

We pray for the lost and injured – for all families suffering – in the wake of the terrible explosion in Beirut. For all the destruction there we ask for your presence and healing.

We pray for all those along the East Coast who have been affected by Hurricane Isaias and for rapid response to getting aid into the most hard hit areas.

We pray for those who suffer from the resurgence of COVID in places that had curbed its impact and for all those many communities feeling only now the weight of its terrible presence.

We pray for friends who are lonely. We pray for others living through the ennui and all for whom this has become less a respiratory illness, but the route to crippling anxiety and depression.

We pray for those on the brink, who have been struggling with addiction issues in this time of social and personal upheaval, and ask that they find the vulnerability to seek help.

We pray for all who have lost livelihood, for those who are terrified of what the near future holds. We pray for families stretched to the brink and for any who suffer abuse in the midst of new pressures. We pray also, for everyone who seeks to help in the midst of these multiple crises and feels as if they are emptying love into the void.

Be with all, Gracious One, who feel lost. Hold all who feel afraid. Bless all who have given up hope. Call us, each of us, lifting this prayer to become a part of your presence in the lives of others, that we may be made to be part of someone else's answered prayer.

We seal these prayers with the one he taught us, saying together:

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come; thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and power and the glory, Amen.