



Brought to our Knees

Prayers during Covid-19

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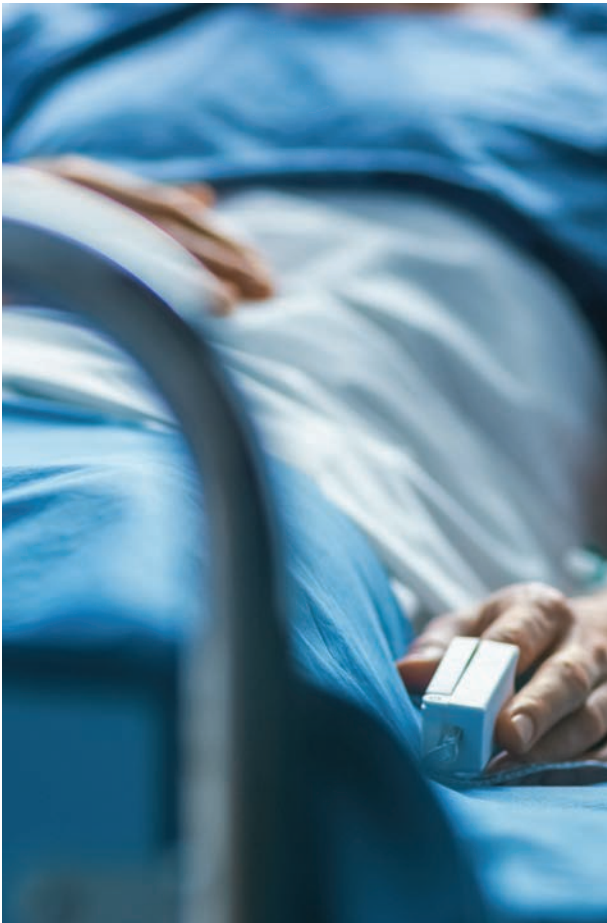
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During the global crisis of 2020-21 when Covid-19 brought the world to its knees, Judy Rois, author of two books of prayers for children, was invited to write prayers at different times during the pandemic. This booklet is a collection of eight of those prayers.

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PRAYER FOR

Individuals with Covid-19

Gracious God, we pray for all those who have been infected by the Covid-19 virus and who are suffering at home or in hospital. We pray for medical personnel, friends and family who care for them, and for all endeavours to bring research to bear on vaccine availability and the eradication of this deadly virus. For those who are suffering, we pray your abiding presence with them, and for those who die, we pray for the rest of their souls in the name of God, creator, sustainer, and holy spirit.

Amen.



PRAYER FOR
Front-Line Workers

Gracious God, we pray for those who work on the front lines and who put their lives at risk each and every day. Protect them and their loved ones during this coronavirus crisis. We pray that there may be proper protocols in place to keep them safe and to guard their physical, emotional, and mental health. For all those who have put their lives in harm's way for the sake of others during this pandemic, we give profound and heartfelt thanks in the name of God, creator, sustainer, and holy spirit.

Amen.



PRAYER FOR

A Pandemic Summer

Gracious God, we pray for the opportunity to find time away or at home during these summer months when we are able to rest and relax for the renewal of body, mind, and spirit. In the city or in the country, may we delight in the splendour of nature's landscape that surrounds us: a splendour that enables a genuine respite from Covid anxiety and pandemic stress. Help us to cherish the beauty of your creation and the wonders of your handiwork. Be present with us, we pray O God, creator, sustainer, and holy spirit.

Amen.



PRAYER FOR
Faith Communities

Gracious God, we pray for churches and faith communities whose doors have been closed during the Covid-19 pandemic, leaving so many without access to a place to find safety, to mourn, to find respite in beauty, and to experience the peace and comfort of sacred space. During such a long period of closure, we give thanks for the many people of faith who responded with resilience, creativity, and imagination to keep faith alive and prayer available in a virtual world. We pray for the way forward, for the restoration of relationships, for worship in word and song, and for the anticipated delight of conversation and friendship. In a post-pandemic world, may churches be vital in helping to restore individual and community well-being and in building future resilience. We pray for people of all faith traditions in the name of God, creator, sustainer, and holy spirit.

Amen.

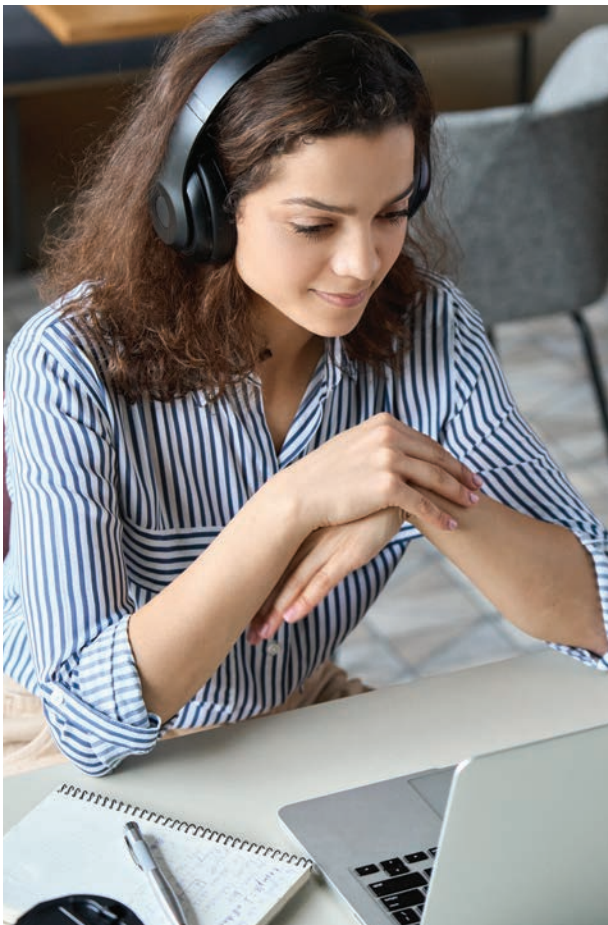


PRAYER FOR

Musicians and Choirs

Gracious God, we give thanks for the gift of music in our lives: for voices lifted up in song, for the harmonies of orchestral sound, and the rhythm and resonance of melodies that nourish heart and soul. We pray for musicians and choirs who have been silenced, that hope will overcome the despair of the pandemic throughout our world, and that all of us will stand together trusting in a new future where song and sound will once again fill the earth with joy and gladness. We pray in the name of God, creator, sustainer and holy spirit.

Amen.



PRAYER FOR
Students

Gracious God, we pray for all students who have been so adversely affected during the Covid-19 pandemic, and we pray for their physical, intellectual, emotional, and spiritual health. Be with them as they discern the way forward in their studies. In the midst of the unknowns, help students to make thoughtful choices and considered decisions that contribute to a brighter, hopeful future. Bless all who teach and all who learn in the name of God, creator, sustainer, and holy spirit.

Amen.



PRAYER FOR

Students Returning to School

Gracious God, we pray for students of all ages who will return to school, college or university this fall. We pray that decision-makers will ensure that places of learning are safe and secure, and that necessary safeguards are in place for their health and well-being. May friendships be renewed after such a long period of isolation, and may study, recreation, sport, drama, art, and music be welcome activities in their post-pandemic world. Grant that hope and courage will be their compass toward a bright future. We pray in the name of God, creator, sustainer, and holy spirit.

Amen.



PRAYER FOR

Loss and Loneliness

Gracious God, we pray for those who have experienced loss during the pandemic: loss of a loved one, loss of companionship and conversation, loss of physical and emotional embrace. Enfold their sadness and loneliness with your deep affection. Give them the remembrance of warm memories and delightful recollections. Be present during moments of feeling isolated, forgotten, even neglected. When memories roll down their cheeks as tears, wrap your tender loving care around them with the reassurance of your abiding presence in the name of God, creator, sustainer, and holy spirit.

Amen.



Judy Rois has been the Executive Director of the Anglican Foundation of Canada since 2011. She was ordained to the priesthood in the Diocese of Toronto in 1986 and served as Rector of three parishes and Vicar of St. James' Cathedral, Toronto before moving to the Anglican Foundation of Canada.

She has authored two books of prayers for children and a book for young people on generosity.