



## PRAYER IN TIME OF OUR COMMON NEED

*In response to the spread of COVID-19 within our communities*

Diocese of Metuchen, New Jersey

*This prayer replaces the usual Prayer over the People  
before the final blessing and dismissal  
The Priest may pray this prayer on behalf of the people  
or if printed for the people it may be prayed by all together.*

**Our Lady of Guadalupe, mother of God  
and of the people of Metuchen  
you always shine on our path  
as a sign of salvation and hope.  
We rely on you, Health of the Sick,  
you who, at the cross, united with Jesus' pain,  
keeping steadfast your faith.  
You, Salvation of God's people,  
you know what we need  
and we are sure that you will provide for us,  
as at Cana of Galilee,  
after the adversity of these days,  
may joy and celebration return.  
Help us, Mother of Divine Love,  
to conform to the will of the Father  
and to do what we are told by Jesus,  
who has taken our suffering upon Himself  
and has burdened Himself with our sorrows  
to lead us through the cross,  
to the joy of resurrection. Amen.**

**Under your protection, Holy Mother of God,  
Our Lady of Guadalupe, we seek refuge,  
hear our prayer and intercede for us to the Father  
so that we may be free from every danger,  
Our Lady of Guadalupe, pray for us.**

*This prayer has been adapted for the people of the Diocese of Metuchen from a prayer  
given to the people of Rome by Pope Francis.*

***Then the Priest concludes as usual with the final blessing.***

## Suggested intercessions for inclusion in the Universal Prayer

For civil authorities,  
as we face the common threat of a virus that may harm us,  
may they unite to lead us to work together for the common good,  
let us pray to the Lord:

For medical professionals,  
as they respond to an increase in the number of people in need of care,  
may they be guided by God's healing power  
as they rely upon their training and experience,  
let us pray to the Lord:

For those who are ill,  
may they feel the healing touch of God  
so that they may return to good health,  
let us pray to the Lord:

For those working for a cure for this recent virus,  
may their minds and expertise  
be guided by the Holy Spirit,  
let us pray to the Lord:

For those who have died from the recent virus,  
may their families find comfort in the Christian community  
and may they share eternally in the heavenly banquet,  
let us pray to the Lord:

For all people of the world,  
may they seek God's protection  
and realize an end to the threat of this disease,  
let us pray to the Lord:

For those gathered here today in this holy place,  
may we experience an increase in our desire  
to care for the weakest among us  
and to serve the common good,  
let us pray to the Lord: