



Dear brothers and sisters of the Marianist Family

The Coronavirus epidemic is growing worldwide, affecting the working, living and livelihood situations of a growing number of people.

As members of the Marianist Family, we want to present this intention in fervent prayer that God may support those affected, as well as the medical, social or religious persons who assist them.

We also want to associate this prayer with all those who are victims of other serious current epidemics, too often forgotten in our prayers (malaria, dengue fever, Ebola virus, ...).

We propose that all of us, personally or preferably in community, pray daily, **from 19 to 25 March**, a Decade of the Rosary for this purpose, with following as a suggested introduction:

***Let us pray for all the people affected in their health or living conditions by the coronavirus or by other serious current epidemics. Let us pray for those who assist them.***

The prayer of Pope Francis (see below) can conclude the Decade of the Rosary.

Those who wish may extend this prayer beyond these dates.

In union of prayer and trust with all of you,

The International Team of the Marianist Lay Communities, MLC

The General Council of the Alliance Mariale, AM

The General Council of the Daughters of Mary Immaculate, FMI

The General Council of the Society of Mary, SM

\*\*\*\*\*

**PRAYER OF POPE FRANCIS (11 March 2020)**

O Mary,

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 know what we need and we are sure that you will provide  
for, as at Cana of Galilee, may joy and celebration return after this trial.

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 we seek refuge, Holy Mother of God.*

*Do not spurn the pleas of we who are in trial*

*And free us from every danger, O glorious and blessed Virgin.*