# PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE APRIL 24, 2020 Prayers In A Time of Pandemic

O Creator, in this time of the coronavirus pandemic, hear our prayers.

When I say

"Giver of Life"... Please respond with ..."Hear Our Prayers".

Creator, we live in isolation with You, and our family members, in the new spaces we have created for ourselves during this time. We are blessed by You to be on Gabriola Island and we feel safe here. As we shelter here in the springtime, following the rules of distancing, shopping and assisting others as we are able, we feel Your presence supporting and guiding us to renew our commitment to others. We have heard the calls from People For A Healthy Community, restaurants and small businesses for help in this time of increased need. We know that many are out of work or laid off for the duration. And that 39% of children on our island live in poverty. The fabric of our lives has both shrunk and stretched to meet new challenges. You have taught us anew that to give is to truly live.

## Giver of Life...Hear Our Prayers

Creator, we are blessed to have all those who are helping us to heal: doctors, nurses, ambulance drivers, pharmacists, our local medical clinic, hospitals and physicians like Dr. Bonnie Henry to provide leadership in B.C. everyday, to get us through this crisis safely. We have a federal government and provincial government to organize a safety net for those who need it. We have our RCMP officers and fire department. We pray for all of them to stay healthy so we can stay safe.

# Giver of Life...Hear Our Prayers

Creator, we pray for the people of the province of Nova Scotia, particularly those in the community of Portapique and surrounding areas. We pray for all those who assisted the family members of those who were killed by a roving shooter. We pray for those who lost loved ones. We are grateful to all those Christian, Jewish and Muslim clergy

who are providing support at this time to handle the tragedy. May the many victims find peace in God's kingdom. And may one day soon, their families be able to celebrate their lives publically. "Rest eternal grant unto them, O Lord, and let light shine perpetual shine upon them. May they rest in peace."

#### Giver of Life...Hear Our Prayers

Creator, as we walk in the woods, or on the beaches, putter in our gardens, and view with awe the clearing of pollution tainting the atmosphere world wide in our cities, we see You there always, and celebrate the life You give us. Our gratitude for Zoom, FaceTime, the internet, streaming, apps and phones, and the opportunity to appreciate our friends and family every day is this pandemic is a great corrector of gifts given, rather than just a great disaster.

#### Giver of Life...Hear Our Prayers

Creator, we pray for the lonely, the sick, the disabled and the fearful: for those with preexisting conditions; for all those in poor communities, especially those with a high black and brown population: for those in sorrow; and for those who need forgiveness. We pray for all those helping give out food to thousands around the world who cannot afford it.

We pray for strong leadership around the world, and strong followership. We pray for the emergence of facts, strong data and courage in the face of ignorance, pride and prejudice.

## Giver of Life... Hear Our Prayers

We pray and care for those we know who are recovering or grieving... Pat Armstrong, Phyllis Nygaard and Hiromi Bradshaw. Please add other names now, out loud or silently, as you feel comfortable sharing.....

Thank you Creator, for this Life.

Paddy Waymark

"Let us say the Lord's Prayer together".