

## Prayer for a Spiritual Vaccine

I'm grateful, indeed, Lord, for the vaccine!  
Praise God from whom all blessings flow!

But I wish we had a vaccine for "spiritual  
Covid"

for the social and spiritual malaise  
afflicting almost everyone I know,  
in greater and lesser degrees of severity  
and with many different symptoms including:

acute loneliness  
spiritual fatigue  
dislocated relationships  
spiritual depression  
lonely isolation  
internal confusion  
struggles in faith  
paralysed prayer life  
debilitating doubt  
contagious discouragement  
and many other symptoms.....

All Covid's side-effects, Lord,  
and there's no medicine to immunise us  
except- a prescription of your grace:  
A shot in our souls, not our arms,  
to mend and heal the damage done  
to our hearts, our prayer, our faith  
in these long pandemic months.....

So, I pray, Lord,  
for the spiritual health and well-being  
of all who suffer in Covid's shadow....

I pray for all who find it hard these days  
to find you in their hearts,  
in their thoughts and in their prayers.....

I pray for all who find it hard to pray,  
to meet you in their heart of hearts where,  
I know, Lord, you wait with patient love  
to comfort them....

I pray for those who feel abandoned  
to the loneliness of isolation or quarantine,  
and all that masks our friendly smiles,  
and keeps us removed from hugs and warm em-  
braces

I pray you'll take the first step, Lord,  
To break through anything and everything  
That keeps us from you, from prayer,  
From finding you present at our side....

And help us, Lord, to help each other,  
As much as we can, whenever we can:  
To rise and breathe freely again;  
In this world and in each other's lives  
To refresh and renew our faith and trust in you:  
To come home to you and your embrace,  
To your compassion and your love....  
In this Lenten season in our lives.

I'm very grateful for the vaccine, Lord,  
But now I wait for your divine medicine:  
Your anointing of our hearts and souls  
To help us help each other mend and heal  
And find ourselves together, once again,  
one in you, united by your grace and love.....

Amen.

**2nd SUNDAY OF LENT 28th FEBRUARY**  
**PRIEST ON DUTY: FRSEAMUS O'ROURKE C.C. 071-9620054**

**ST.MARY'S Sunday 10am:**Farrell McElgunn (1st Anniv)  
Bridget Elmsflie (1st Anniv)  
Jimmy Stenson (2nd Anniv)  
John & Eileen Farrell & Birthday Remembrance  
for their grandchild Fergal Whelan

### **MASSES FROM MONDAY 1st SATURDAY 6th MARCH**

**Monday 8pm:** Michael O'Rourke (Anniv)

**Tuesday 10am:**

**Wednesday 10am:** Deceased members of the Gilsenan & Gray families

**Thursday 10am:** Maureen & Jim Doran & deceased members of  
the Doran & Kelly families

**Friday 8pm:** Pdraig McGinn (Months Mind)

**Sat 10am:** Tom Beirne (1st Anniv) & deceased members of the  
Beirne & Gaffney families (Cornamuckla)

### **MASS FOR SUNDAY 7th MARCH**

**ST.MARY'S Sunday 10am:** Rita Butler (Months Mind)  
John McManus (Breffni Crescent) Anniv  
Jim Regan (Leitrim Village) Anniv  
Mary Ann Doran & deceased members of the Doran family (Leitrim)

**DEATHS:** We pray for the happy repose of the souls of Thomas Patrick Gilmartin (Gowel ) and Sr. Brigid Jane McGuinness (of our local Marist Community) who died recently. May they rest in the peace of Christ.

**COVID UPDATE:** In the latest update from our government of recent days, the current Level 5 restrictions will still remain in place in the coming weeks. Accordingly, we will continue to broadcast our masses online. We hope and pray that the number of those contracting the virus will continue to decline so that we can look forward to re-opening our church for the celebration of our Easter Ceremonies. We are deeply mindful that many of our parishioners are upset because they are unable to attend mass in Lent. We encourage you to be faithful to your own individual Lenten observances and to continue to pray that all of us will do all we can to ensure the health, safety and wellbeing of everyone.