



Hello, Neighbor...

I am reaching out to say “hi” and to let you know you are not alone during this trying time.

I am Catholic and every year on the 50th day after Easter my church celebrates Pentecost. Today we remember when Jesus sent the Holy Spirit to his disciples who had been in hiding for 50 days. They were afraid and disillusioned. On Pentecost, Jesus let them know they were not alone, and He is alive in this world. What they thought was the end of the story – his death – was the beginning of a new life for them and for all of us.

We cannot gather with our faith community today, so I am reaching out to you, my neighbor, to let you know I am praying for you. And to let you know we will get through this. If you need anything, my parish **Saint Julie Billiart** can help connect you to those who may be able to help. Please reach out to mike@stjulie.org or Catholic Charities at GetHelp@catholiccharities.net or **312.655.7700**.

If you are looking for someone to pray with, night or day, the Archdiocese of Chicago has a prayer line in English, Spanish and Polish. Call **312.741.3388** to pray with someone or email praywithme@calleddtoprayer.org to leave a prayer intention.

If you have recently lost a loved one, we also have online grief groups. Visit archchicago.org/coronavirus/online-grief-groups to sign up.

Please reach out regardless of your faith background, and we will find a way to connect you!

I also invite you to pray with me today. If you feel comfortable, you can light a candle and say this prayer. And if someone comes to mind, I encourage you to reach out to that person just to say “hello” and to check on them. We believe that God puts people on our hearts for a reason.

Prayer:

Come Holy Spirit...

Come Holy Spirit...

Come Holy Spirit...

*Spirit of God, Breathe new life into
this world. Bring hope, healing, and
love in our midst.*

Amen.

Blessings to you and those you love!