

THE CRUCIFIX OF SAN MARCELLO AL CORSO, ROME



On Monday Pope Francis made a pilgrimage to pray before the miraculous crucifix in the Church of San Marcello al Corso in Rome. A copy of this image was brought back from Rome and is now in the window of the Walsingham Chapel for people to see. The original Crucifix survived a fire and was processed through the streets of Rome in the 16th Century as the people prayed for the end of illness and disease. During the Covid-19 outbreak we are each of us called to pray. We unite ourselves in prayer with all people for those in need, those who are isolated, and those who are sick. We pray also for all those who work in the National Health Service, and all who support our medical professionals. We unite ourselves in prayer with Pope Francis who prayed before this Crucifix:

Heavenly Father, we thank you for the gift of good health and peace that we have enjoyed for so many years. As we find ourselves in this time of crisis today, we ask for your divine intervention and mercy to be upon each of us.

Come and guide the minds of those working to discover a treatment to the COVID-19 virus. Grant them wisdom, knowledge, and clarity of mind, so that all peoples will be free from the threat of this ailment.

We also pray for the healthcare workers that are standing in the front line of this battle. Father, we thank you for their hearts of service, putting the needs of society before their own, generously responding to the cry of Your people. We ask that You will grant them strength and protection. As they give of themselves in selfless service, may You fill them with your Holy Spirit as they work to be Your healing hands and feet!

Father, we also surrender to You all those who have been afflicted with the virus. Grant them Your healing grace, merciful Father, so that they may recover swiftly and continue to be witnesses of Your love in their lives.

Mother Mary, we ask for your intercession in this great time of need. Cover each of us with your blue mantle of protection, so that we may be preserved in good health to continue to glorify your son, Jesus Christ. We make this prayer through Christ, our Saviour and Redeemer. Amen.