

PRAYER WARRIORS WITH HEART

Our Goal

Our hope is that the Prayer Warriors' hearts of silent prayer will join with the Sacred Heart of Jesus in His love for those who suffer. Let us bombard God with our sincere concerns for our loved ones who are addicted or incarcerated. It is with softened and renewed hearts that we offer our petitions to God. We ask for His guidance and His strength to help those who struggle daily.

"I will give thanks to you for you have answered me."

~ Psalm 118

We want to pray for you and your loved ones. Please send us a quick email with your prayer (for example, Please pray for my son, first name optional, as he struggles with _____) at HopeNotOpioids@ccda.net. We will add your prayer request to our list, and everyone who reads it will pray for you! Please know that you are not alone. Together, as Prayer Warriors, we will storm Heaven with our prayers and God will hear us!

We invite you to forward this email to friends and family, and have them [sign up](#) to join our Prayer Warrior Team.

Reflection



"Let your light shine before others that they may see your good deeds and glorify the heavenly Father."

~ Mt. 5:16

Have you ever considered that all of us are broken in some way, and we are searching for comfort and healing? Maybe we have watched our loved one, for so very long, yo-yo between using drugs and staying clean. With despair, we watch and cry silently for their soul, as we feel helpless in their struggle. Finally with so much joy we see our son get sober for a month, and we feel elated for he is on his way to recovery! Only to see him collapse again under the horrendous draw of the drug. Our joy is pierced by a horrific pain not for ourselves, but for our son whose great prospects for the future are put on hold yet again! So many at this time are suffering with Substance Use Disorder, and they are putting so much effort into their recovery only to constantly hit a wall. Walls of layoffs from jobs, virtual AA meetings, sometimes little family support, loss of friends, and so many more obstacles.

During this pandemic, many of us have struggled with a feeling of real hopelessness. These changes to our daily way of life have challenged all of us, with no clear vision for what is to come down the road in the future. But through all of this, there is a light so bright that it will lead you to a safe haven. Jesus the Light will guide, protect, and love you even in the worst circumstances. That bleeding, gaping hole of hopelessness, He will heal. God will not fail you, ever. Find that light, grab onto it and know it will shine for you and lead you from darkness and despair to joy and salvation.

Covid-19 Support via the Calix Society

Calix is an association of Catholic alcoholics, drug addicts, and family members and friends affected by addiction, who are maintaining their sobriety through participation in their Catholic faith and a 12 Step program. While Covid-19 is having an unprecedented impact on all of us due to social distancing, financial stress, emotional strain and fears for physical safety, the impact is especially dangerous for those who suffer from addiction. With that in mind, the Calix Society is making available the following excellent resources to offer help and support to those battling addiction and suffering during this challenging time:

Attend a Healing Reflection Online during July:

Father Paul Richardson, the Calix Chaplain for the Diocese of Arlington, will be live-streaming 4 Healing Reflections on each Monday during July at 3:00pm, starting July 6th. Each reflection will have a special theme and an associated Scripture. Please click [here](#) for the details. Also, Father Paul is available to talk with anyone confidentially if you'd like to speak with a priest during this difficult period. Father Paul can be reached at: (804) 253-5735.

Attend a Calix Meeting Online:

Social distancing has made in-person Calix and 12-step meetings impossible, but we invite you to join us for an online Calix meeting using Zoom. We offer local and national meetings, including a Beginner's Meeting. There are 3 Calix meetings via Zoom in the Diocese of Arlington. Please click [here](#) for details.

Prayer Booklet:

We encourage you to click [here](#) to download a copy of the Calix Society prayer booklet, *Prayers, Scriptures and Meditations*. We hope and pray these words bring you comfort at this difficult time.

Attend other Local Meetings Online:

Find an AA, NA 12-Step Program or Al-Anon Meeting in the Northern VA area online using Zoom, below:

- AA, NA 12-Step Recovery Meetings: <https://nvintergroup.org/virtual-meetings/>
- Online Meetings in the Loudoun District that covers Loudoun and parts of Fairfax County: <https://www.alanondistrict10.org/zoom-meetings>
- The Friday Night Lights Al-Anon meeting at 7pm at St. John Neumann. Zoom link: <https://us04web.zoom.us/j/5163881311> If needed, the ID is: 5163881311 and Password: 31243
- If you have a teenager that is being impacted by someone's drinking, there is a confidential Alateen Meeting held each Wednesday evening at 7:00pm. For Zoom link details, or any questions on Alateen, please email Mike at mfm2u2@gmail.com or call (703) 362-3534.

Free Helpline: (970) 898-2670

Separate from the Calix and other 12 Step program meetings, a Helpline has been established that is manned by a group with extensive experience in recovery from addiction and/or incarceration and for those affected by someone's addiction. Please don't hesitate to call: (970) 898-2670.

Constant Prayer Requests

- Our brothers and sisters living in the confines of jail or prison
- Prison guards, medical professionals, or others who work with the addicted and incarcerated
- Those suffering from drug or alcohol addictions
- Those experiencing success with recovery
- Our returning citizens who have recently been released from prison
- The families of those who are struggling with addiction or are incarcerated

Monthly Prayer Requests ~ Submitted by our Readers

- Please pray for Skyler W.
- Would you please continue to pray for Charlotte S. and her daughter, Nina.
- Please pray for Damianus A. and myself.
- Prayers for Mary Ann's son, Michael, who is struggling with many issues.
- Prayers for Larry that he remains sober.
- Pray for Theresa's brother-in-law Allen. Pray that he realizes he needs help.
- Pray for Judy's son and all other children who have died of an accidental overdose
- Pray for Dan.
- Please pray for Nick that he will get help for himself.
- Please pray for Travis, Nicholas, Jon, Dan, and Adekola.
- Please keep in your prayers the volunteer mentors who are working in the Re-Entry Program.
- Pray for our clients who have relapsed and are on the road to rebuilding their sobriety and recovery, especially during this Pandemic.

- Pray for our priests who must bear the emotional and spiritual burden of burying their parishioners to this horrible disease.
- Please pray for a friend who has just started recovery after relapse.
- Pray for Thom who is incarcerated. May he find peace.
- Pray for Nate.
- Please pray for Pauline's son, Andrew who has relapsed.
- Please pray for the men of the Oxford Houses that God will give them strength during this pandemic.
- Please pray a special intention for a young man who is struggling with heroin.

Thoughts For the Month



"He turns all things to good for those who love him."

~ Romans 8:28

These are trying times for some of us. You might be experiencing your own pain and suffering, or watching someone you love go down the road of relapse. Now that you have been released from jail; you might worry that you may not find a job, and financially you will suffer. Maybe you have started to isolate again, for fear your family will know that you have relapsed. Death might have come to someone you love, and you are grieving. What if all you can think about is, where can I get my drug of choice? These thoughts are like being buried in a tomb...a tomb that is suffocating you.

Are you locked in a tomb of your own making, or because of circumstances presented to you that you had little control over? If so, what can you do to release yourself from this particular power? For YOU have the ability to make positive changes in your life, and you can reach out to Jesus. Your tomb could be your addiction to drugs or alcohol or maybe you are in a tomb of incarceration. Perhaps, your suffering is due to watching and living with someone you love so much who is an addict. Who will roll the stone back from the entrance of your tomb? Whatever the tomb is, God wants to move the stone away and free you. You cannot even imagine the extent of His love for you.

Today, when you are suffering in your tomb, shout out to Jesus! Simply reach out to Him and ask for help and He will answer you. Or, if you lack the strength or courage to shout, then just sit with him quietly and speak from your heart. He will do anything for you; if only you believe. Remember, through suffering and

trials, your faith will be strengthened. He is waiting for you!

*Entwined with the Sacred Heart,
Judy Wetzel
Volunteer*

St. Jude Thaddeus, patron saint of the hopeless, Pray for Us!

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