

I wanted to say: It's at times like this. No. This time is unprecedented, certainly in our lives.

Our lives, locally, seemed so well managed and continuous. Yet for all of us there have been crises that have saddened, shocked, frightened, angered and dislocated our day to day routines, our lives, and taken us to the extremes of emotion and confusion. The consequences tumbling down the years.

In this moment of increasing anxiety for the health of our family, friends, our community, at home and abroad, and for ourselves, we find we are isolated in so many ways.

When I am despairing, I think of Job's strong belief. Through his long experience, through his terrible grief, disappointment and frustration, it never changes. I am recalling David Atkinson's words, in his book 'The Message of Job'

Job's message is; 'Nothing can stand between God and me' 'Through it all God never lets go of my hand'  
'Nothing can stand between God and me' 'At the bottom of every abyss He stands beside me'

I am reminded that we must continue to bear these circumstances and in doing so we must also take up the challenge to support those around us in all and anyway we can. I am reminded, like you, because of what I see and understand. What is being done for the sick. The services that continue minister to us all.

I am so blessed by God's love and provision for me. I am touched by the tender care of those around me. Family and friends. I am surrounded by the beauty of God's creation. Thank you God.

I thank God for you all, and pray his, limitless, blessings on you.

'God yearns to draw close to all. The evidence of His great love is joy, mercy, compassion and love'

Laura Swan OSB

Sister Wendy; 'prayer in accepting tragedy, frustration, triumph and disaster and the pain they bring, changes that pain into something redemptive'

Great Love, Thank you for living in us and through us. Help us to be a community that shares each others burdens and longs for the healing of the world.

We pray in His presence, Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen