**Caritas Prayer for the COVID-19 Pandemic**

May we, who are experiencing the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic in Australia and are coming to terms with a new reality, remember the words of scripture “Be still and know that I am God”.

May we, who as adults struggling to process what is happening in our world, remember children who are fearful of a reality they cannot comprehend.

May we, who complain about the scarcity of commodities, remember those who are working to maintain the supply chain.

May we, who observe the long queues of those seeking support, remember those for whom there is no government assistance or financial aid.

May we, who rely on essential services, especially those in the medical profession, remember all those working on the front line.

May we, who work to end poverty, promote justice and uphold dignity, remember those living and working in vulnerable communities.

May we, who are working from home, remember those who have no employment or home from which to work.

May we, who have access to medical facilities and services, remember those who do not have basic health care.

May we, who are beginning to experience border closures, remember refugees who cannot return home.

May we give thanks for those who are working to help or bring some kindness, joy or humour to others, showing us the light of Christ lives.

During this time of isolation as we close our doors, may we continue to keep our hearts open to our family, friends, local and global communities.

We ask this in the name of Jesus.

Amen

St Oscar Romero, patron saint of Caritas Internationalis, pray for us.

Patron Saints of Australia,

Our Lady Help of Christians, pray for us

St Francis Xavier, pray for us.

St Therese of Lisieux, pray for us.

St Mary of the Cross MacKillop, pray for us