

Salt – Light – Hope

reflections and care for those who serve in pandemic
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April 1



No man is an island entire of itself; every man is a piece of the continent, a part of the main; if a clod be washed away by the sea, Europe is the less, as well as if a promontory were, as well as any manner of thy friends or of thine own were; any man's death diminishes me, because I am involved in mankind. –John Donne, Meditation XVII

Wise public voices remind us that, to care for one another in this time of contagion, we need to physically sequester ourselves to avoid spreading infection. Yet, there is another more persistent, enduring framing of human connection. John Donne reminds us of our common human condition. We are all in this together.

As we move through the world, acting with kindness or indifference, loving care or hostility, we set the giant spider web of humanity trembling. The lives we touch for good or ill will touch other lives, and then still others. Who knows how this trembling will be felt, or where this trembling will stop? In what far places will our touch, even our virtual touch, of care be felt?

Receive this blessing:

May the grace of God

Deeper than our imaginations;

The strength of Christ,

Stronger than our need;

And the communion of the Holy Spirit,

Richer than our togetherness.

Guide and sustain us today

And in all of our tomorrows. Amen and amen.