Script for Pastoral Outreach Phone Calls

**Introductions**
- Hi, my name is ....
- I’m a fellow parishioner at _____ calling as part of our Pastoral Care & Outreach efforts.
- I am calling to check-in to see how you are doing and to share God’s love.

**Reason for Calling**
- We would like to be of service both spiritually and practically at this time.
- I want to let you know some of the things we are doing to stay connected as a community. (e.g. reaching out, online resources, online Mass, etc.)
- Have you had a chance to visit our parish website? It’s a great resource to find new ways to deepen our faith.

**Getting to Know You**
- Tell me more about yourself and your life at _____ Parish.
- When did you join the Parish?
- What ministries or activities have you been involved with?
- How are you doing with the current situation?
- How are you coping with being asked to self-quarantine? Any challenges?
- Are you in regular contact with family and friends?
- (Share some of your own stories)

**Spiritual Connections**
- It may not feel this way now, but God often draws closest to us in our struggles and in the storms.
- Here at _____, we want you to know the love, mercy, and presence of God. We want to be with you in every way we can during this important time.
- Daily Livestream Mass is available at our parish or at Christ Cathedral at ChristCathedralMass.com

**Pray**
- Would you like to join me in a prayer before we end this call?
- May I email you a prayer to pray at home? (Snail Mail if they have no access to email)
- (Pope Francis’ Prayer to Mary during the Coronavirus Pandemic and other prayers are available on the attached prayer list.)

**Reassure**
- We are all in this together.
- (Acknowledge and validate feelings, repeat back the emotions that may be expressed.)
- We don’t know how long this situation will last, but we look forward to celebrating at public Masses again soon.
- I’d like to give you a call back to check-in again if that is ok with you.
- (The primary purpose of the call is to be present and to listen!)

**What if?**
- If help is requested, make a note of it, but do not offer to help yourself. Reassure that you will pass along the information.
- Do not overpromise – we help as we can and are able.
- If you are uncomfortable at any point, try restating the purpose of the call to get back on track. If that doesn’t work, graciously end the call and contact the parish.

**Next Steps**
- Set up another time to call and check-in. Once a week is good if you have the capacity to do so.
- Requests for help of any nature should be sent to the parish staff, St. Vincent de Paul, Catholic Charities, Serve Hope Helpline, etc., depending on the need.

Thanks to the Archdiocese of Seattle Office of Pastoral Ministries for sharing this resource!
Pope Francis’ Prayer to Mary during Coronavirus Pandemic

O Mary, you always shine on our path as a sign of salvation of hope. We entrust ourselves to you, Health of the Sick, who at the cross took part in Jesus’ pain, keeping your faith firm.

You, Salvation of Your People, know what we need, and we are sure you will provide so that, as in Cana of Galilee, we may return to joy and to feasting after this time of trial.

Help us, Mother of Divine Love, to conform to the will of the Father and to do as we are told by Jesus, who has taken upon himself our sufferings and carried our sorrows to lead us, through the cross, to the joy of the resurrection. Amen.

Under your protection, we seek refuge, Holy Mother of God. Do not disdain the entreaties of who are in trial, but deliver us from every danger, O glorious and blessed Virgin. Amen. —Adapted from Vatican News

Prayer to Our Lady of Guadalupe for Protection from the Coronavirus

Holy Virgin of Guadalupe, Queen of the Angels and Mother of the Americas. We fly to you today as your beloved children. We ask you to intercede for us with your Son, as you did at the wedding in Cana.

Pray for us, loving Mother, and gain for our nation and world, and for all our families and loved ones, the protection of your holy angels, that we may be spared the worst of this illness.

For those already afflicted, we ask you to obtain the grace of healing and deliverance. Hear the cries of those who are vulnerable and fearful, wipe away their tears and help them to trust.

In this time of trial and testing, teach all of us in the Church to love one another and to be patient and kind. Help us to bring the peace of Jesus to our land and to our hearts.

We come to you with confidence, knowing that you truly are our compassionate mother, health of the sick and cause of our joy.

Shelter us under the mantle of your protection, keep us in the embrace of your arms, help us always to know the love of your Son, Jesus. Amen.

—Archbishop José H. Gomez of Los Angeles and President of the USCCB

Prayer Against Anxiety and Depression

Lord, when all is darkness and we feel our weakness and helplessness, give us the sense of your presence, your love, and your strength. Help us to have perfect trust in your protecting love. Bless us with your strengthening power so nothing may frighten or worry us. We trust that in living close to you, we shall see your hand, your purpose, your will through all things.

—St. Ignatius of Loyola

Do not fear: I am with you; do not be anxious: I am your God. I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my victorious right hand.

—Isaiah 41:10