

**OUR LADY OF THE MIRACULOUS MEDAL**

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August 4, 2023

**FLOODING IN SLOVENIA**

Dear parishioners and friends of the Slovenian community:

Torrential rains and heavy floods ravaged Slovenia on Friday, killing at least three people, cutting off roads and bridges, surging into buildings and forcing evacuations. Thousands are without electricity.

Slovenia's environmental agency, ARSO, raised the weather alert to the highest level after a month's amount of rain fell within 24 hours in northern, northwestern and central parts of the country. Army have been deployed to help.

Photos in local media showed submerged cars, cracked roads and entire villages flooded. Rescuers could be seen carrying out children from a blocked kindergarten while helicopters lifted people who climbed onto the roofs of their flooded homes.

**The situation is still evolving**, and rescue and recovery efforts are ongoing. The Slovenian government, along with various agencies and organizations, is working tirelessly to address the immediate needs of affected communities and mitigate the long-term impacts of this natural disaster. **The solidarity and support of neighboring countries and the international community are crucial in assisting Slovenia during this challenging time.**

**With the approval from the Archdiocese, we will be making a special collection at our Church, so you will receive a donation credit. These funds will be sent to Caritas, Slovenia.**

**Envelopes are in the vestibule or use a plain envelope and write your name and address on it and mark on the envelope flooding Slovenia.**

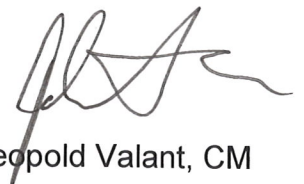
Donation can be cash or if paying by cheque, please put in our church name:

**Miraculous Medal write** - OLMM - Slovenia

**Help of Christians write** - OLHC - Slovenia

Your support and prayers are greatly needed.

Yours in Christ,



Fr. Leopold Valant, CM

Pastor

*I invite you to pray for Slovenia in this difficult times.*

At this time, we hold in our minds and hearts all those affected by the floods and pouring rain in Slovenia.

Our hearts go out to those whose homes, possessions and businesses have been destroyed or damaged by floods in.

We remember in prayer:

Those whose lives have been devastated,

Those who are feeling vulnerable and weak

Those who are stranded

Those who are facing both long-term and short-term needs

Those who are homeless in this crippling time

We pray also for all those who are meeting needs at this time:

Volunteers and community workers

Those working to rescue people who are stranded and feed the hungry

Those supplying food, water, equipment, money and urgent supplies

Those working to clear roadways and homes that have been damaged

Police officers, emergency personnel, medical and social welfare responders

Those seeking to offer protection from theft and fraud.

We pray that each of us will play our part in responding to the overwhelming conditions of this time, and particularly in reaching out to those who are struggling to rebuild their lives.

We pray too, for the Government, the Church and all other institutions and organisations, to play its part in strengthening structures that will heal our land, restore creation, and relieve those suffering homelessness and poverty.

We make all our prayers in the name of Jesus, who reached out always to those most in need. AMEN.

Ljubi Jezus,

Usmili se nas in daj, da bi prebivali v miru. Varuj nas pred sušami, poplavami, gozdnimi požari in potresi, pred orkani, neurji, točo in drugimi neprilikami. O brani nas pred lakoto, pomanjkanjem in izgubo najosnovnejšega za življenje. Jezus, odvrni od nas vse hudo in nas ohrani pri življenju.

Prosimo Te za vse tiste, ki so v teh dneh že utrpeli škodo ali izgubili bližnje v nesrečah. Naj v času preizkušenj najdejo zavetje in upanje v Tebi, v drugih ljudeh pa prijazne in ljubeče pomočnike in zanesljive prijatelje, ki jim bodo pomagali preboleti bolečino izgube in obnoviti, kar je bilo porušeno.

Prosimo Te tudi za vse srčne ljudi, ki pridejo na pomoč prvi, ko nastopijo nesreče in zavlada kaos. Daj moči vsem gasilcem, reševalcem, delavcem civilne zaščite, zdravnikom, humanitarnim in drugim ljudem, ki nesebično pomagajo v težkih okoliščinah.

Ščiti njihova srca, da se ne bodo predali malodušju, ampak vztrajali do zadnjega. Osvobodi jih vseh travm, ki so jim priča. Meni pa spremeni pogled nanje, da jih bolj cenil in jih podpiral v njihovem poslanstvu.

Gospod, pomagaj tudi meni, da bom postal bolj sočuten in aktiven do ljudi v potrebah in v trpljenju. Pokaži mi, katere svoje talente lahko uporabim v pomoči njim. Ne dopusti, da bi se kadarkoli obrnil stran od kogarkoli, ki potrebuje pomoč.

Očisti moje srce ravnodušnosti, sebičnosti in nezmožnosti izkazovanja ljubezni. Osvobodi me strahu, da se ne bom zmozel ustrezno odzvati na stiske drugih. Naj zaupam Vate, da si vedno z menoj in mi daješ vse, kar potrebujem.

Dragi Jezus, hvala, da me skozi podobe, ki sem jim priča in tudi nesreče bližnjih, osvobajaš napačnega in omejenega pogleda na materialne dobrine in tudi na naravo.

Hvala, ker imam na voljo toliko pripomočkov, ki mi olajšajo življenje, in za varno bivališče, da se lahko osredotočam na tiste stvari, ki me jih Ti učiš, da so bistvene, delu in družini.

Pomagaj mi svoje življenje preoblikovati tako, da bom prispeval k večji skrbi za okolje in naravo. Naj se skupaj z drugimi vključim v aktivnosti in pomagam graditi skupnost, v katerih bo vladala solidarnost, nesebičnost in iskreno prizadevanje za skupno dobro.

Hvala, ker nas po takšnih dogodkih učiš in opominjaš, kako zelo krhko je naše življenje in minljive vse stvari, ki so nam v našem življenju dane v uporabo.

Samo Ti sam si naše resnično zavetje in najdragocenejši zaklad, na katerega lahko vedno računamo in v njem najdemo resnično svobodo. Amen.