Dear Baby Jesus...

Prayers and Petitions to our Pint-Sized Prince of Peace during a Pandemic...

CHARISE BENNETT

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Komikal Entertainment

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Part 1

Umm, Baby Jesus, You Planning to Be Here Tomorrow, Huh?

It was right around my birthday in the middle of March 2020 when the whole world seemed to pause like a broken VCR tape. We'd heard a bit about COVID-19 in February, but most media outlets compared it to the flu, no big deal. Then the casualties across the globe started to rise and the phrase "global pandemic" was everywhere and we realized the severity of Coronavirus!

We were told to "shelter in place," "quarantine," "only go out for essentials" and let me tell you, fear and panic ran rampant!

I was in that place of fear and panic, too! So I decided to talk to Baby Jesus to see if I could get an ETA on His arrival, because surely Earth was a wrap, LOL!

Dear Focused, but Frustrated Baby Jesus,

I know learning to tie your shoes can be overwhelming, and getting the bunny ears to loop just so to make the bow is quite difficult, even for our mini-Messiah. But, can you change out of your "rapture wear" denim outfit and wrap a divine bow of healing over the Earth?

Coronavirus is scary and I'm feeling a bit overwhelmed, too; but, I know you are greater than every virus and disease in the galaxy, so I'm giving my fear to you to bear. You can handle it way better than I can.

Amen

Dear Giggling and Cooing Baby Jesus,

I know you're peeking over the pearly gates grinning at all the people trying to get your Daddy's attention even though they've never talked to Him before. Take a moment to wave thine righteous rattle of relief in my direction to dispel some of this anxiety threatening to consume me. I know this feeling is not from you, Tiny True Vine.

Amen

Dear Toddling into the Terrible-Twos Baby Jesus,

Please take a sanctified second from running through the west wing of heaven in your hard-bottomed shoes to stomp out the ignorant thoughts people have regarding the severity of this virus. They aren't taking it seriously, Sanctified Seraphim, but I'm sure those white shoes with bells on them will apply the perfect pressure to prove the point that protection is necessary.

Amen

Dear Eagerly, Potty Training Baby Jesus,

While you're watching the roll of toilet paper go down the drain as you repeatedly flush the commode of the covenant, Lil Lord of Lords, please send a heavenly supply of Charmin or Cottonelle to me, your humble servant. The store shelves are as barren as Sarah before Isaac's arrival, and you came that I might have abundant life, not 1-ply life.

Amen

Dear Excitedly Running Though Elizabeth's House Baby Jesus,

I know you're enjoying playing with your cousin John, Baby Burden Bearer. And although you smell like outside, my odoriferous and omniscient Savior; I must humbly ask if I can stop exercising and eating clean since it seems like Earth is over? I'd really prefer that a 6-wing fried hard with mild sauce, salt and pepper be my last meal before we ascend to the manna in heaven. I really don't want this grilled chicken and broccoli to be it.

Amen.

Dear Adorable, Angelic, Infant Adonai,

Now that you finished scribbling in the page of your Crosses of Calvary Coloring Book, allow me to thank you for the gift of grace and the power of prayer. Being able to seek your smiling, drooling, cherubic face has made each day of sheltering in place much easier to bear, I am grateful for my unlimited access to You and Your/Our Daddy.

Amen

If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land. -2 Chronicles 7:14

This is my daily scripture, it renews my faith every day.

How did you handle the early days of the pandemic? Are you still battling the same feelings? Use this space to write a prayer to Baby Jesus; or to get your feelings out of your head, putting thoughts on paper really helps.

Part 2

Sooo, This is Our New Normal, Baby Jesus?

Ok, Baby Jesus, clearly you weren't planning to come pick us up in March like I thought. Who knew? I guess you did because you know the beginning and the end, right? Duh!

Here we are in the middle of summer and we've pretty much adjusted to quarantine life. Mask on, hands washed, 6 feet apart waiting for life to go back to normal…

But while we're waiting, Imma seek your face about a few things.

Dear Quietly Playing Baby Jesus,

As you cook with your Feast or Famine Fisher-Price kitchen playset, please take your celestial spatula and flip it in my direction to dispel the housework sitting before me. In my youth I thought I wanted to be a housewife like your mother Mary (minus the virginal birth part); however in reality, Little Lamb of God, I do not like cooking and cleaning and laundering every day!

Amen

Dear Slightly Stuffy and Sneezy Baby Jesus,

I know seasonal allergies are irritating you, but remove your anointed aspirator from your blessed Nazarene nose and squeeze a puff of air in the direction of the Earth dwellers who refuse to wear masks properly. Allow the puff of air to enter their respiratory system through their uncovered noses or mouths so they recognize the risk they pose to themselves and others.

Amen

Dear Bouncing and Beatific Baby Jesus,

I'm not sure what's going on with my taste buds, but none of the food I cook and eat is pleasing to my palate. I believe I'm fatigued of my own cooking because restaurants are closed, Baby Bread of Life. Please renew my healthy appetite with thine divine finger of flavor that my belly might find favor with my culinary efforts.

Amen

Dear Laughing and Splashing Baby Jesus,

As you play in your kiddie pool while Joseph makes mangers for the poor, splash some sacrosanct water across mine eyes to wake me from my extreme screen-time induced slumber. As you know, Wee Water Walker, I've never been a fan of meetings, and having to sit through a Zoom meeting staring at a screen for more than two hours seems to be more punishment than I can bear.

Amen

Dear Perfect in all thine Ways Baby Jesus,

I hate to disturb you while you're playing with your Day of Pentecost Dolls, but there is a lot of rage and unrest due to the mistreatment of your people by racists with badges in America. Little Lion of Judah, I ask that you release a raucous roar of righteousness to rid this land that claims to be ruled by you of white supremacy and the white devils that uphold it.

Amen

Dear Rosy-cheeked, Baby Powder-scented Baby Jesus,

Your benevolence is a wonder to me, Kid-Sized King of Kings! In the midst of a situation that seemed untenable a few short months ago, you allowed us the ability to adapt. In trusting You, and placing ourselves in Your holy hands, we have learned to not only live, but thrive in this global pandemic; experiencing peace only you can provide.

Amen

"Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God; and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus." Philippians 4:6-7

This scripture helped me to find peace while the whole world seemed upside down. From state-sanctioned murders to riots and looting, peace was what I sought most.
How did you deal with all of this upheaval? Are you still in the midst of it? Write about your feelings here.

Part 3

Welp, As Long As You're With Me, Baby Jesus, We Got This!

And we're 9 months into this global pandemic and umm, yeah, we're still here. Most people assumed that the virus would be done and by now we'd back to regular life. There are still a whole lot of people wishing 2020 would end. They say it as though Coronavirus will pack up and leave on New Year's Eve and 2021 will be virus-free. And I just don't think that is how it's gonna work.

Thankfully, I still have You to depend on Baby Jesus, even when I gotta praise you through the innanets.

Dear Dancing, Finger-Snapping Baby Jesus,

As you dance like David danced to the verzuz battle between Hezekiah Walker and John P. Kee, I ask that you pop, lock, and drop some consecrated hand cream on my ashy hands, Diminutive Deliverer. The excessive hand washing and sanitizing is leeching the moisture from my skin, but I would rather be dry than exposed to disease.

Amen

Dear Fussy and Teething Baby Jesus,

As soon as the orajel soothes your godly gums, Omnipresent One, please wave your teething ring of rationality at your people. Though we've been social distancing for many months, some of your creations can't grasp the concept of six feet of separation and I'm seconds away from making my displeasure known in this grocery store.

Amen

Dear Bored and Disinterested Baby Jesus,

Online learning is not easy, especially for children with special needs and disabilities. I know you miss playing in the schoolyard with your friends at Nazareth Elementary School where you won all of the foot races because you can run and not be weary, or faint. Please write a divine digital code, Christ the Coder, and download the patience and understanding educators, parents, and students need to be successful in this new learning environment.

Amen

Dear Brilliant Baby Jesus,

While you're playing with your Building Blocks of Bethlehem playset, I beseech you to bless the many food pantries and food drives open to provide food to your people in need. Many have lost their jobs and food security due to the pandemic and rely on the churches and organizations in their communities to survive. Thank you for blessing them to be your hands and feet, Petite Provider.

Amen

Dear Ever-Present and Ethereal Baby Jesus,

I know you're having fun wearing your church sandals tap dancing across Mary's kitchen floor while she prepares breakfast, Infant Immanuel. Pause in your reverent routine to login to the innanet and see the iconic and incredible worship services taking place across the globe in Your name. Since the pandemic, pastors, preachers and leaders have embraced technology as a tool of evangelism and I am ecstatic.

Amen

DEAR SWEET, IMAGINATIVE BABY JESUS,

Thank you Tiny Tot of the New Testament for blessing so many people with creativity. With thine divine direction, we have found ways to come together while being socially distant. From online dance parties, bible classes, game shows, and educational classes, we have taken the virus the devil meant for bad and turned it for our good. And that wouldn't have been possible without You, Mini Mighty One, thank you.

Amen.

And Jesus answered them, "Have faith in God. Truly, I say to you, whoever says to this mountain, 'Be taken up and thrown into the sea,' and does not doubt in his heart, but believes that what he says will come to pass, it will be done for him. Therefore I tell you, whatever you ask in prayer, believe that you have received it, and it will be yours. Mark 11:22-23

Yes, the pandemic is still going and the number of infections is rising daily. This is why this scripture ministers to me. We must keep and hold onto our faith because Baby Jesus is the same yesterday, today and forevermore. Write down some ways to increase your faith, they will help on those days when all of this seems too much to bear.

Thank you for spending this time with me and Baby Jesus.

The prayers were created to make you laugh because I believe that humor heals.

Each prayer/petition was written to address a feeling or situation that I dealt with or was concerned with during the pandemic. And it is my sincere prayer that they help you to deal with your feelings, too!

A merry heart [a] does good, like medicine,
But a broken spirit dries the bones. – Proverbs 17:22

"As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Abide in my love.
-John 15:9"

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Dear Baby Jesus...

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The year of Baby Jesus's Father, 2020, has been...

"I really can't think of a single word that can describe 2020. Everything is different: school, work, home, church, it seems as if the whole world is upside down!

In spite of all the upheaval, the one constant is and will always be - Baby Jesus!

He hears and answers prayers whether He's playing or potty-training!

This is a collection of prayers and petitions to our Pint-Sized Prince of Peace pushed me through the pandemic, and I pray they help you, too!"

- K O M I K A L 1 -