



## **Diocese of Salt Lake City**

### **POPE FRANCIS CALLS FOR A WORLDWIDE PRAYER VS CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC ON MARCH 25**

The Diocese of Salt Lake invites all Church Leaders and their faith communities as well as our Government leaders to join us in solidarity with the call of Pope Francis in simultaneous praying of the “Lord’s Prayer” on **Wednesday, March 25, 2020 at 12 noon** as a response to the COVID-19 pandemic. Pope Francis called on Christian churches to respond to the pandemic “with the universality of prayer, compassion, of tenderness”. “In these trying days, while humanity trembles due to the thread of the pandemic, I would like to propose to all Christians that together we lift our voices towards Heaven,” he said.

**On Friday, March 27**, Pope Francis also announced that he will preside over a moment of prayer on the “sagrato” of St. Peter’s Basilica, the platform at the top of the steps immediately in front of the facade of the church. The ceremony will consist in readings from the Scriptures, prayers of supplication, and adoration of the Blessed Sacrament; and will conclude with Pope Francis giving the “Urbi et orbi” Blessing, with the possibility of gaining a plenary indulgence for all those who listen to it live through the various platforms of communication. The blessing “to the City [of Rome] and to the World” is normally only given on Christmas and Easter. The live broadcast from the Vatican will begin at 6:00 p.m. Rome time, 11am US Mountain time.