



St. Corona
Martyred c.165
Memorial - 14 May

**Believe it or not there is a Patron Saint for pandemics....
And her name is '*Corona*'**

Let us ask her intercession that this pandemic may end and healing come to our world so that God may be glorified and we may be set free.

Little is known about St. Corona, but she and the man she prayed for, St. Victor, are listed in the Roman martyrology and the Hagiography of the Church.

There is ambiguity surrounding the dates and locations of St. Victor's and St. Corona's martyrdom. Most sources say it was in Syria, which was under Roman rule.

Some say Damascus; others, Antioch.

Most agree they were put to death in the year 170 A.D. during the reign of Marcus Aurelius and that they were put to death by order of a Roman judge named Sebastian.

The story (legend) tells the tale of a Roman soldier named Victor. The Romans discovered that Victor was a Christian. The soldiers brought Victor before a judge, named Sebastian, who despised Christians. He decided to make an example out of Victor. He was bound to a pillar and summarily whipped until his skin was hanging from his body, and then Sebastian had his eyes gouged out.

Through it all, Victor never denied Christ.

Nearby was a 16-year-old girl name Corona.

She was the wife of one of the soldiers, and she was also a Christian. (Corona's husband did not know his wife was a Christian).

As Victor was being brutalized, Corona decided she needed to help the slowly dying man. She chose to announce her Christianity to all present and hurried over to where they were torturing Victor. She knelt and began to pray for him, letting him know she was there for him. It did not take very long for the soldiers to bring her too before Sebastian.

Sebastian was livid. He immediately had her put in the prison and tortured. Then, he ordered her tied to the tops of two palm trees, which had been pulled down to the ground. At his signal, the ropes holding the trees bent were cut. The trees sprang back away from each other to an upright position. The force was so great that

Corona's body was ripped apart. Then Sebastian ordered Victor beheaded.

St. Corona's feast day, along with St. Victor's, is May 14. We ask both of them to pray for us all that this pandemic subsides.

St. Corona being a patron saint to invoke against epidemics can be verified in various German-language sources, as this particular aspect of devotion to her is most common in Austria and Bavaria.

Also, her name, in reference to the Latin word for crown, surely refers to her martyrdom, as she received the "martyr's crown."

*There is a basilica in Anzu, Italy, where the relics of St. Victor and St. Corona have been preserved since the 9th century. The word Corona is Latin for crown. St. Corona is considered as one of the patron saints of pandemics.**

She, and surely all the saints, are praying for our world in this difficult situation, but let us ask her intercession.

NOVENA PRAYER TO ST. CORONA **PROTECTRESS FROM EPIDEMICS**

Faithful St. Corona, who willingly received the crown of martyrdom for the Catholic Faith, I ask for thy intercession against the coronavirus pandemic.

Pray for me and my family, for my loved ones, and for every person who has the virus or is in danger of getting it and being harmed by it.

Through thy intercession, obtain the protection of our physical health from our Lord's goodness, if it be God's will, and if not, obtain for us the help to remain in sanctifying grace and so to be ready always to meet our Lord face-to-face.

Concluding Prayer : 1 Our Father, 1 Hail Mary & Glory Be

St. Corona, patron against epidemics, pray for us!



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