

A decorative branch with pink cherry blossoms arches across the top of the page, framing the title.

Corona Poetry Project

HAIKU

is a traditional Japanese poetry form most often based on nature themes.

During this period of quarantine and sheltering in place when we can't get outside as freely as we might like why not celebrate spring by trying your hand at Haiku?

It's very simple, just read the instructions on the next page.

Email your HAIKU to serenity@LittleSistersofthePoor.org and we'll post them on our Little Sisters social media!

A decorative branch with pink cherry blossoms arches across the bottom of the page, framing the text.

Everyone is welcome to participate!



HAIKU

Haiku is a Japanese poetry form. A haiku uses just a few words to capture a moment and create a picture in the reader's mind. It is like a tiny window into a scene much larger than itself.

Traditionally, haiku is written in three lines, with 5 syllables in the first line, 7 syllables in the second line, and 5 syllables in the third line.

Examples: High on a mountain	(5 syllables)	Two cups of coffee
hippo watches snowflakes dance	(7 syllables)	wake me up enough to ask
winter has begun	(5 syllables)	“Did I have coffee?”

The following are typical of haiku:

- ☞ A focus on nature.
- ☞ A “season word” such as “snow” which tells the reader what time of year it is.
- ☞ There is often a surprising, contrasting or unexpected element.
- ☞ Use of descriptive words that help paint a picture of a natural scene.
- ☞ These are characteristics of traditional haiku, but you may write about other things as well, or even write humorous poems (like the coffee poem above).



CHERRY BLOSSOMS PEAK
YET LOVELY TREES STAND ALONE
TOURISTS NOT ALLOWED!