



World Day of the Sick

“I myself will pasture my sheep; I myself will give them rest. The lost I will search out, the strays I will bring back, the injured I will bind up, and the sick I will heal”

Ezekiel 34:15-16

God who is our companion to each of us in our suffering, who shepherds us as we need, we pray for the courage and compassion to be companions to those who are sick and suffering. As we pray with the words of Pope Francis, call to mind what it looks like for you to “pause, approach, heal... and raise up” in your own context.

On this 31st World Day of the Sick, may we honor Francis’s call to acknowledge that “Sick people, in fact, are at the center of God’s people, and the Church advances together with them as a sign of a humanity in which everyone is precious and no one should be discarded or left behind.” May we take action that no brother or sister is left behind, and may we be compassionate and true companions to one another, in the name of
God our Shepherd.

AMEN.

Let us pray:

“It is crucial, then, even in the midst of illness, that the whole Church measure herself against the Gospel example of the Good Samaritan, in order that she may become a true “field hospital”, for her mission is manifested in acts of care, particularly in the historical circumstances of our time. We are all fragile and vulnerable, and need that compassion which knows how to pause, approach, heal, and raise up. Thus, the plight of the sick is a call that cuts through indifference and slows the pace of those who go on their way as if they had no sisters and brothers.”

Pope Francis