

**World Day of the Sick
and Health Care Workers
February 11**

LEADER: The mystery of suffering confronts us daily. Today we gather to bring hope and encouragement to the sick and all health care workers. Saint Benedict would have us be a school of loving service. People who are suffering ask only for help. When we receive help, we need to accept what is offered with a loving response. We all need the support and loving care of one another.

LEADER: *Psalm 55:23*
Cast your care upon the Lord
and God will support you.

**ALL: Help us to set aside our worries
and trust in the Lord our God.**

READING: *Luke 10:25-37 "The Good Samaritan"*

Pause to ponder the message for our lives.

LEADER: *(in these or similar words)*

What do you worry about? Why are you anxious? God created you. Will God not take care of you? When we place ourselves in our Creator's hands, we live by faith. God's spirit of loving concern is a gift given to everyone. We need to help each other to persevere. Console and encourage one another and find God's hidden blessings.

PRAYER LITANY

LEADER:

In union with Christ, the suffering servant, we ask in prayer: **LORD, HEAR OUR PRAYER.**

Help us to promote good health and quality of life, we pray:

ALL: LORD, HEAR OUR PRAYER.
(Repeat after each petition.)

Inspire us to live by core values and ethical decision-making, we pray:

Guide us to make a garden of our human home by combining external ecology with internal moral ecology, we pray:

Surround with affectionate care those who are afflicted by human suffering, we pray:

Bless especially all health care workers who devote their lives to loving service of the sick, we pray:

May mutual respect of each person bring fuller harmony and a healthy balance of mind, body and spirit, we pray:

PRAYER

LEADER: Christ, the Divine Samaritan,

**ALL: WE THANK YOU AND PRAISE YOU
FOR COMING TO LIVE AMONG US.
YOU CALL US
TO FOLLOW YOUR EXAMPLE
OF BEING A SUFFERING SERVANT.
SEND YOUR SPIRIT OF RESPECT,
UNDERSTANDING AND COMPASSION.
HELP US TO RECOGNIZE YOU
IN ONE ANOTHER
AND IN THE POOR
AND THE POWERLESS.
WE ASK THIS NOW AND FOREVER.**

AMEN.



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