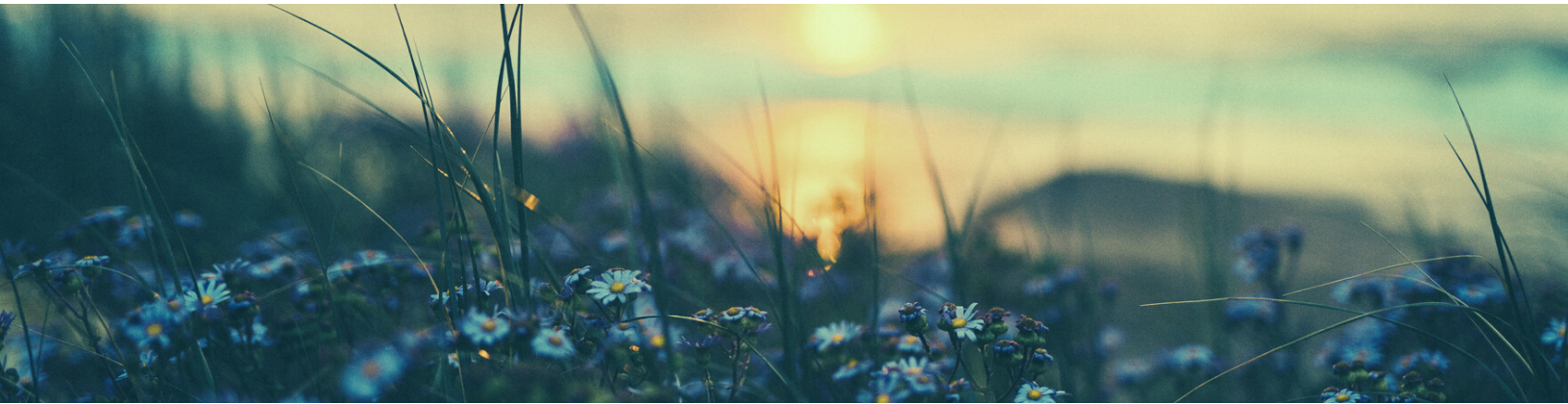


FEBRUARY 11, 2024

World Day of the Sick

HEALING THE SICK BY HEALING RELATIONSHIPS



Each year, on February 11th, the Catholic Church marks the World Day of the Sick. This is a time to offer prayers for those who suffer from illness and for their caregivers. The theme of this year's 32nd World Day of the Sick is, "It is not good that man should be alone".(cf. Gen 2:18), Healing the sick by Healing Relationships.

["A World Day of the Sick" - Full Message from Pope Francis](#)

[2024 World Day of the Sick Prayer Card](#)

"To those of you who experience illness, whether temporary or chronic, I would say this: Do not be ashamed of your longing for closeness and tenderness! Do not conceal it, and never think that you are a burden on others. The condition of the sick urges all of us to step back from the hectic pace of our lives in order to rediscover ourselves.

Pope Francis



Instituted by Pope Saint John Paul 11 in 1992, the World Day of the Sick is celebrated annually on the Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes, in honour of the Marian apparitions that were said to have been seen in and around Lourdes, France by St. Bernadette. These apparitions began on February 11, 1858, and since then, many pilgrims and visitors have experienced healing at the Sanctuary of Our Lady of Lourdes. In 1991, Pope John Paul 11 was diagnosed with Parkinson's disease, and it is considered that his own illness was the catalyst for creating World Day for the Sick.



St. Joseph's
Health Care Society