

World Day of the Sick 2025 (February 11)

The Pope's Message for the World Day of the Sick 2025

“Hope does not disappoint’ (Rom 5:5), but strengthens us in times of trials” is the title of [Pope Francis’ Message](#) for the XXXIII World Day of the Sick.

World Day of the Sick is celebrated annually on 11 February, the liturgical memorial of Our Lady of Lourdes. Every three years, the celebration takes a solemn form at a Marian Shrine. Due to the Jubilee Year 2025, the Holy Father Francis has ordered that the solemn celebration, which should take place this year, be held on 11 February 2026 at the Marian Shrine of the *Virgen de Chapi*, in Arequipa, Peru.

In 2025, the Church will celebrate World Day of the Sick in the ordinary form, at diocesan level, on 11 February: the Jubilee of the Sick and the World of Healthcare on 5 and 6 April; and the Jubilee of People with Disabilities on 28 and 29 April.

The World Day of the Sick gives councils an opportunity to pray for spiritual, mental and bodily healing for ourselves as well as family and community members struggling with all forms of illness. Pray also for all those who care for those who are sick: healthcare professionals, family members, friends or volunteers. We should also strive to be concrete manifestations of Christ’s healing and saving love.

As the practice of MAiD becomes more widespread let us also resolve to keep political leaders at all levels in our prayers that they may enact laws and promote environments that foster caring for the sick and vulnerable at all stages of life.

Excellent resources can be found at the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops website <https://www.cccb.ca/faith-moral-issues/suffering-and-end-of-life/>

When the Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick is given, the hoped-for effect is that, if it be God's will, the person be physically healed of illness. But even if there is no physical healing, the primary effect of the Sacrament is a spiritual healing by which the sick person receives the Holy Spirit's gift of peace and courage to deal with the difficulties that accompany serious illness or the frailty of old age. For information on the sacrament of anointing of the sick go to <https://www.usccb.org/prayer-and-worship/sacraments-and-sacramentals/anointing-of-the-sick>

For the full message from Pope Francis to mark the day:
<https://www.humandevlopment.va/en/news/2025/messaggio-del-papa-per-la-giornata-mondiale-del-malato-2025.html>

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