



Jubilee 2025



Jubilee of the Sick and Health Care Workers

5 – 6 April 2025

This weekend, we gather to honour the Jubilee of the Sick and Health Care Workers, celebrating the courage of those facing illness and the compassion of those who care for them. We give thanks for the resilience of the sick, whose journeys remind us of the strength found in faith and community, and for the dedication of health care workers, whose hands bring healing, comfort, and hope. Their work is a testament to the love and mercy of Christ, as they selflessly serve those in need.

Today, we pray for peace, comfort, and healing for the sick, and for continued strength and grace for all health care workers. May we all be inspired by their example of unwavering kindness and devotion.

Prayers

Example prayers of the faithful

For all who are suffering from illness, in body, mind, or spirit, that they may feel the comfort of God's healing presence, find strength in times of weakness, and experience peace and hope through the love and support of others. **E te Ariki ...**

For all carers, including doctors, nurses, hospital and hospice chaplains, and all those who care for the sick. May they be filled with wisdom, compassion, and patience. May they be strengthened by God's grace in their work of healing, comforting, and sanctifying the sick, bringing peace and hope to those in need. **E te Ariki ...**

Other prayers for the sick and those who care for them

Healing Prayer by Saint Padre Pio

Heavenly Father, I thank You for loving me. I thank You for sending Your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, to the world to save and to set me free. I trust in Your power and grace that sustain and restore me.

Loving Father, touch me now with Your healing hands, for I believe that Your will is for me to be well in mind, body, soul and spirit. Cover me with the Most Precious Blood of Your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, from the top of my head to the soles of my feet.





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Cast anything that should not be in me. Root out any unhealthy and abnormal cells. Open any blocked arteries or veins and rebuild and replenish any damaged areas. Remove all inflammation and cleanse any infection by the power of Jesus' Precious Blood.

Let the fire of Your healing love pass through my entire body to heal and make new any diseased areas so that my body will function the way You created it to function.

Touch also my mind and my emotion, even the deepest recesses of my heart. Saturate my entire being with Your presence, love, joy, and peace and draw me ever closer to You every moment of my life.

And Father, fill me with Your Holy Spirit and empower me to do Your works so that my life will bring glory and honour to Your Holy Name. I ask this in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

SCRIPTURAL LITANY FOR THE SICK

Do not fear nor be dismayed, for the Lord, your God, is with you wherever you go. (Jos. 1:9)

The Lord is my shepherd; I shall want for nothing; I fear no evil; for you are at my side. (Ps. 23)

The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom should I fear? The Lord is my life's refuge; of whom should I be afraid? (Ps. 27)

God is our refuge and our strength, an ever-present help in distress. The Lord of hosts is with us; our stronghold is the God of Jacob. (Ps. 46)

Bless the Lord, O my soul; and forget not all his benefits. He pardons all your iniquities, he heals all your ills. (Ps. 103)

Come to me, all you who are weary and find life burdensome, and I will refresh you. (Mt. 11:28)

I am with you always, until the end of the world. (Mt. 28:20)

I myself am the living bread come down from heaven. If anyone eats this bread he shall live forever. (Jn. 6:51)

I came that they might have life and have it to the full. (Jn. 10:10)

I am the resurrection and the life: whoever believes in me, even though he should die, will come to life; and whoever is alive and believes in me will never die. (Jn. 11:25)

Do not let your hearts be troubled. Have faith in God and faith in me. (Jn. 14:1)





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A BLESSING FOR THE SICK

Lord Jesus, when you were on earth, they brought the sick to you and you healed them all. Today we ask you to bless all those in sickness, in weakness and in pain.

For those who are blind and who cannot see the light of the sun; the beauty of the world, or the faces of their friends: *Bless your people, O Lord.*

For those who are deaf and cannot hear the voices which speak to them: *Bless your people, O Lord.*

For those who are helpless and who must lie in bed while others go out and in: *Bless your people, O Lord.*

For those whose minds have lost their reason and those who are so nervous that they cannot cope with life: *Bless your people, O Lord.*

For those who must face life under some handicap; those whose weakness means that they must always be careful: *Bless your people, O Lord.*

For those suffering from debilitating or terminal illness and for their caregivers: *Bless your people, O Lord.*

For those who are near the hour of death and in their final struggle: *Bless your people, O Lord.*

Father, your only Son took upon himself the sufferings and weakness of the whole human race; through his passion and cross he taught us how good can be brought out of suffering. Look upon our brothers and sisters who are ill, whom we now remember in a special way. In the midst of illness and pain, may they be united with Christ, who heals both body and soul. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

From <https://stfrancisnyc.org/prayers-for-the-sick/>

A Prayer for Health Care Workers

Loving God, you created us with the capacity to heal, to restore and to offer peace through our role in Catholic health care ministry. Help us to be signs of love and compassion in the world today — honouring every person we meet who is in need of healing. When our burdens are heavy, renew us, remind us of the blessing of our calling and reawaken our commitment to the healing ministry. Amen.

From <https://www.chausa.org/prayers/cha-prayer-library/prayer/feb.-12---a-prayer-for-health-care-workers>





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Prayer for the Sick

Merciful and loving God, the source of health and healing. we pray for all those who are sick and suffering.

May those who are living through the misery and indignity of their illness find comfort in your presence, as you accompany them through their dark hours. In these stark times, may they come to know your love and increase their faith.

Lord, comfort, guide and strengthen all who are ill, and give courage, patience and perseverance to those who have a chronic illness that is lasting for many years.

We give thanks for all those who care for the sick and ask that you will guide, support and nourish them as they accompany the ones they are caring for.

Help us to be like Christ, by showing compassion for the sick, the suffering and infirm.

We ask this through your son, Jesus. Amen.

Written by June Hurley

Reflection on the Jubilee of the World of Volunteering

Read the following reflection out during Mass/within your faith communities over the weekend of 5 – April 2025, or distribute for personal reflection.

Today's Gospel (John 8:1-11) depicts a circle of indignant, judgmental accusers surrounding a listening, leaning Christ, with a broken and vulnerable woman thrown in the middle. It reminds me of the circle that gathers around the bedside of an ill person.

Both physical and moral illness are ways our humanness fails us; they remind us of the limits of our human capacities. I don't think we really like being reminded of this. We become indignant and judgmental. We blame the imperfect system, other members of the family, or even our own bodies—I often hear, "I don't know how I ended up on the floor, it was so silly of me!" I suspect that some aspects of shame are similarly a form of moral self-chastisement.

Like the circle around the woman caught in adultery, we gather around the ill, often in discomfort, in recognition of our common humanity. In the Gospel, Christ calls us to this task—consider your own limitations and what that means for you today... lean into the circle.

The gift of the sick to the world in Jubilee 2025 is to remind us of our common, limited humanness. The gift of all healthcare workers, who encounter these limits day in and day out, is





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to remind us that there is something holy and redemptive possible at the edge of human limitations, when we are present to suffering, leaning in, as Christ was present.

*For extra reading, this circle of ordinary brokenness and its redemptive, hopeful attributes are captured in Les Murray's poem *An Absolutely Ordinary Rainbow*, which notes the effect of a weeping man on the crowd who surrounds him*

<https://rpo.library.utoronto.ca/content/absolutely-ordinary-rainbow-les-murray>

For a more scientific explanation, Dr Shane Sinclair (Director of the Compassion Research Lab, Faculty of Nursing, University of Calgary) describes this circle as 'The Patient Compassion Model.' <https://www.drshanesinclair.com/blog/the-sinclair-compassion-questionnaire-what-it-is-and-why-it-was-developed>

Kathleen Field

Palmerston North Hospital Chaplain

Suggestions for celebrating this Jubilee in your communities

- **Use the Provided Prayers of the Faithful or Write Your Own**
Tailor prayers to reflect the unique contributions of volunteers and healthcare workers in your community. Highlight their roles in providing care, healing, and comfort to the sick, and acknowledge their work as part of the ongoing mission of Christ's healing ministry.
- **Share a Reflection During Mass or in Faith Communities, with Options for Private Reflection**
Read the reflection aloud during Mass or at community gatherings. Offer printed copies for personal reflection or place them in common areas, such as foyers or bulletin boards, to remind the community of the blessings of the Jubilee and encourage ongoing gratitude.
- **Organise a Community Visit to Local Hospitals or Nursing Homes**
Arrange a group to visit local hospitals, hospices, or nursing homes. Volunteers can offer prayers, deliver flowers, or provide small comforts to the sick and those who are caring for them.
- **Host a Healing Service or Mass for the Sick**
Hold a special healing service or Mass for those in need of physical, emotional, or spiritual healing. Invite members of the community to participate in a time of prayer, anointing, and reflection, offering prayers for the sick and those who work to heal them.
- **Recognise the Contributions of Long-Term Healthcare Volunteers and Workers**





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Celebrate those in your community who have dedicated their time and talents to caring for the sick over many years. Whether through a private thank-you, a small gift, or public acknowledgment, show your appreciation for their steadfast service to others.

- **Create a Healing and Wellness Resource Table**

Set up a table or booth during a weekend service or community gathering where members can learn about available healthcare resources, volunteer opportunities, and ways they can support the sick. Include information on home care, chaplaincy services, and mental health support.

- **Offer Meals or Care Packages to Healthcare Workers and Volunteers**

Organize a community initiative to prepare and deliver meals, snacks, or care packages to local healthcare workers or volunteers in your area. This simple act of kindness can brighten their day and remind them they are valued.

- **Bless Those Who Work in Healing Ministries**

During a Mass or community gathering, offer a special blessing for those who work in healing ministries, whether they are doctors, nurses, hospice chaplains, or volunteers. Pray for their strength, renewal, and continued compassion as they serve others.

- **Start a Community Fundraiser or Donation Drive for Healthcare Needs**

Organise a fundraiser or donation drive to support a local hospital, hospice care service, or medical charity. This can be a way to help those in your community who are directly working to care for the sick, as well as provide for those in need of medical care.

