



ROMAN CATHOLIC
Diocese of Calgary

February 11, 2019

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

On this 27th World Day of the Sick, February 11, Pope Francis invites us to create a culture of generosity in the spirit of St. Teresa of Calcutta, who demonstrated mercy to all. "St. Teresa of Calcutta reminds us that generous gestures like that of the Good Samaritan are the most credible means of evangelization. Caring for the sick requires professionalism, tenderness, straightforward and simple gestures freely given, like a caress that makes others feel loved."

Thank you to all who care for the sick through parish pastoral ministries, in health-care facilities, homes and communities. Christ's ministry of healing is extended in your gift of pastoral presence, your acts of practical love for one another and your generosity of compassionate service.

We also remember our Catholic health-care ministries which bring important spiritual and ethical dimensions to our health-care system and promote health and healing—for body, mind and soul—through hospital care, seniors care, outreach services and palliative care in our diocese. At the heart of Catholic healthcare is a deep respect for the intrinsic value and dignity of every human being and an unwavering commitment to serving all people, from all backgrounds and faiths—especially the most vulnerable in society.

I am extremely grateful for the work of these Catholic organizations, such as Providence Care, Father Lacombe Nursing Home and the Covenant family of providers—Covenant Health, Covenant Care and Covenant Living. Our Catholic ministries are a critical part of the Church's response to the needs of an aging population, including seniors who struggle with loneliness, frailty and difficult challenges that come with loss and declining health.

I encourage all of you to support and pray in thanksgiving for our Catholic health ministries across the Diocese. Please prayerfully consider your calling to serve and to contribute your time and talents volunteering or working with our Catholic ministries. Please take some time to visit and learn more about the retirement living options and care communities that live out our Catholic faith and tradition with fidelity and compassion.

On this World Day of the Sick, let us reflect on the precious gift of life and health and keep those who are suffering in our prayers.

Yours in Christ,

Most Reverend William T. McGrattan, D. D.
Bishop of Calgary



WORLD DAY OF

the
sick

FEB. 11, 2019

*You received
without payment;
give without
payment.*

Matthew 10:8