Pope John Paul II initiated

WORLD DAY OF THE SICK

a year after he was diagnosed with Parkinson's Disease. It began in 1993 and each February II we are called upon to pray for the sick and to remember those who care for them. As the past year has shown us if we have our health then we have much to be grateful for.

So we ask you to say this prayer on their behalf.

Prayer

Verse: Jesus, you brought healing to those who were sick.

Response: Lord have mercv.

- V: Jesus, be with all who are sick and give them comfort.
- R: Lord have mercy.
- V: Jesus, bless the hands and feet of nurses and doctors who come to the aid of all who are ill.
- R: Lord have mercy.
- V: Jesus, keep safe all who travel to bring medical care to the poorer regions of our world.
- R: Lord have mercy.
- V: Jesus, so many are without adequate health care in our world, move our hearts to seek justice and access to medical care for all.
- R: Lord have mercy.
- V: Jesus, give patience and strength to those who care for family members who are ill.
- R: Lord have mercy.
- V: Jesus, give hope to all who live with chronic conditions.
- R: Lord have mercy.
- V: During this time of pandemic we pray for all scientists and medical researchers who are

working on vaccines and better treatments.

- R: Lord have Mercy
- L: Let us pause and call to mind those who are sick among our family and friends and all medical and nursing staff throughout the world. (Pause for a moment of reflection)
- O: God, your Son taught us that we should always pray for those in need and so we pray for them in Jesus' words: Our Father...

(After the Lord's Prayer the leader continues)

Let us pray:

: God, we entrust to your merciful care all who are sick.

We ask you to bless all medical and nursing staff and all who assist them in their work, Give them the grace and strength, the clarity and wisdom, the hope and love that they will need to sustain them in their work.

We pray that others will be inspired to follow in their footsteps and to give themselves generously to the healing professions.

We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, in the Holy Spirit, God for ever and ever.

All: Amen

