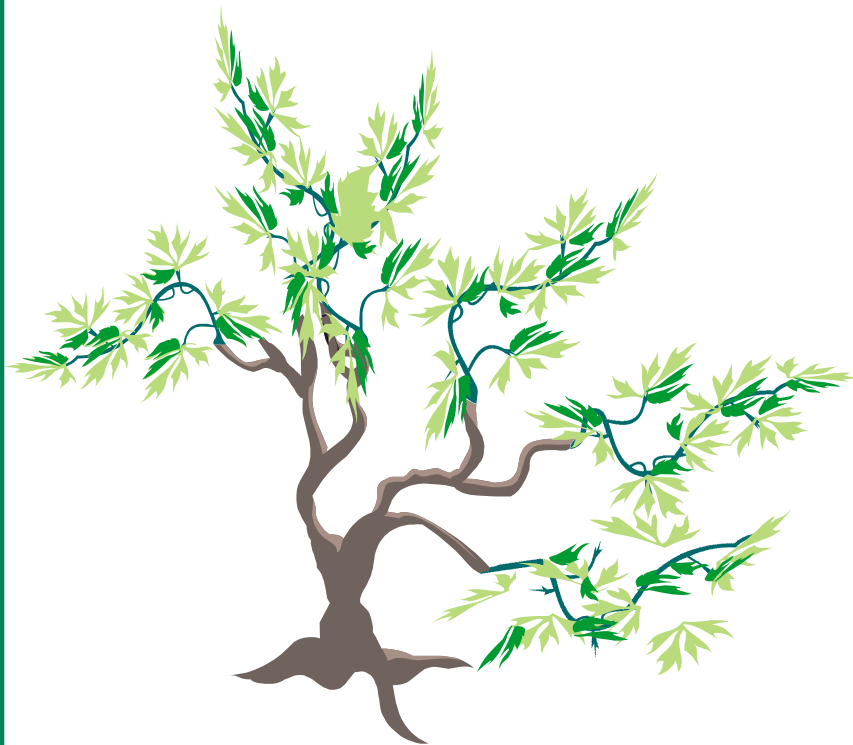


World Day of the Sick

A Service of Prayer



FEBRUARY 11, 2010

Produced by the
Catholic Health Alliance of Canada
www.chac.ca

LITURGY

OPENING RITE

Gathering Song —

Welcome —

Opening Prayer —

Spirit Healer,
I trust in the strong roots
you have planted in my heart.
Just as a tree planted by the water's edge
extends its roots toward the current,
so do I turn to You, Source of Life.
I have stretched out my branches
which are my experiences and relationships,
and they have sprouted leaves of grace.
In those times when my life is marked
by loss or sickness
I trust in your healing presence;
I trust in YOU. Amen.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

Matthew 8:5-8

When he went into Capernaum a centurion came up and pleaded with him. "Sir," he said, "my servant is lying at home paralyzed and in great pain." Jesus said to him, "I will come myself and cure him." The centurion replied, "Sir, I am not worthy to have you under my roof; just give the word and my servant will be cured."

The Gospel of the Lord.

R. Praise be to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

LAYING ON OF HANDS

All those who seek healing of body and spirit are asked to come forward to receive the laying on of hands. Two hands are placed on the sick person's head or shoulders. Recite the following prayer as each person presents themselves.

May the God, who heals both body and spirit lift you up and bring you comfort and peace.

The *Sacrament of the Sick* may also be administered at this time.

Prayer of the Faithful

Leader: For those who are sick and are preparing for surgery. We pray....

All: *Heal them in body, mind and spirit.*

Leader: For those suffer from dementia and Alzheimer's disease, and for those who care for them. We pray....

All: *Heal them in body, mind and spirit.*

Leader: For those who suffer from mental illness whether in a family setting or alone wandering our streets. We pray....

All: *Heal them in body, mind and spirit.*

Leader: For family members and caregivers who provide the love, encouragement and compassion needed for healing. We pray....

All: *Heal them in body, mind and spirit.*

An opportunity is provided for those present to share their own petitions.

Leader: Lord, make us instruments of healing for all those with whom we come into contact. Help us to trust in your guidance, to reach out to those in need, and to be thankful for the dedication of health care professionals. AMEN

Blessing of the Caregivers —

All those who care for the sick (health care professionals, administrators, support staff) are asked to stand. Those assembled stretch out a hand and pray.

Lord bless those who provide help for the ill and troubled among us. May they be filled with courage and endowed with compassion as they give strength to those under their care. May they continue to find within themselves the desire to reach out to those in need. And in their love for others, may they know the blessing and support of our community. AMEN

The Lord's Prayer —

Concluding Prayer —

God of Peace –
Comfort those who suffer,
Give courage to those who are afraid,
Patience to those afflicted,
And hope to those who feel dejected.
When we feel alone, strengthen us through the support of family, friends, and a community of faith.
AMEN

