

“On this Twenty-fifth World Day of the Sick,

I once more offer my prayerful support and encouragement to physicians, nurses, volunteers and all those consecrated men and women committed to serving the sick and those in need. I also embrace the ecclesial and civil institutions working to this end, and the families who take loving care of their sick. I pray that all may be ever joyous signs of the presence of God’s love ...” **POPE FRANCIS**

**WE PRAY FOR THE NEEDS OF THE SICK AND
OF ALL THOSE WHO SUFFER –**

the poor, the infirm, the outcast, the marginalized. May they be recognized, no matter how frail, for their innate and inalienable dignity and mission in life. Like Saint Bernadette, who turned her frailty into support for others, may they bring out in others the love and compassion that are part of every created human heart.

**WE PRAY FOR THOSE WHO PROVIDE CARE
AND ASSIST THE SICK —**

family members, health workers and volunteers — that they may accompany the infirm and show them the love of God made manifest in human hands and hearts. We pray for those in different roles of service and in health care institutions throughout the world, that they will be strengthened in their professionalism and dedication to the sick and the suffering.

Excerpted from CHA’s 25th World Day of the Sick Prayer Service



**A Statement to the Muslim community
from the Catholic bishops of Saskatchewan**

January 30, 2017

Dear brothers and sisters in the Muslim community of Saskatchewan,

On behalf of the Catholic community, we wish to express our deep sorrow on recent tragic events in Quebec City, and to offer our condolences and prayers for your suffering community at this time. Earlier today, His Holiness Pope Francis, expressed his own prayers for those who were killed and injured in Quebec, as well as their families, asking the Lord to bring them comfort and consolation in the ordeal.

We stand together with you and leaders of all faith communities in condemning violence, particularly violence in the name of God, whose name is peace. Violence profanes the name of God. Such inconceivable violence violates both the sacredness of human life as well as the respect due to a community at prayer and its place of worship.

In his 2017 Message for Peace, Pope Francis says: “may we dedicate ourselves prayerfully and actively to banishing violence from our hearts, words, and deeds, to becoming nonviolent people and to building nonviolent communities that care for our common home. ‘Nothing is impossible if we turn to God in prayer. Everyone can be an artisan of peace.’”

We pray together with you that the God who is peace will bring you comfort and lead us together to walk in peace and solidarity. We are committed to working together with you, and all people of goodwill, towards peace, sharing in all efforts that unite us to our brothers and sisters of the Muslim faith.

In solidarity and peace,
The Catholic bishops of Saskatchewan

Archbishop Donald Bolen, Archdiocese of Regina
Archbishop Murray Chatlain, Archdiocese of Keewatin-Le Pas
Bishop Bryan Bayda, Eparchy of Saskatoon
Bishop Albert Thévenot, Diocese of Prince Albert
Very Reverend Kevin McGee, Diocese of Saskatoon