

World Leprosy Day 2023



World Leprosy Day is normally observed on the last Sunday in January. The next World Leprosy Day will be taking place on **the 29th of January 2023**. It's a day we can set aside to raise awareness of people affected by leprosy.

The French humanitarian Raoul Follereau selected the date for World Leprosy Day. He wanted to pay homage to the life of Mahatma Gandhi and his death on 30th January 1948. Inspired by Jesus, Gandhi had a lifelong compassion for people affected by leprosy.

CALL TO ACTION:

We are reaching out to the churches and so today **we are inviting your church congregations to a CALL TO PRAYER in 2023.**

Together, as we follow the example of Jesus to seek out people affected by leprosy who have been ignored or despised, **we aim to be praying at the forefront** and helping to cure, care for and restore people affected by leprosy back into their communities. As we pray with thousands of others all around the world this **World Leprosy Sunday, we will be part of a global movement** dedicated to ending the transmission of leprosy as we work together towards **No Child with Leprosy by 2035.**

Since it is a Global Day of Prayer, we are trusting that more New Zealand Churches than ever before join in prayer for World Leprosy Sunday in 2023. World Leprosy Day is acknowledged on Sunday 29th January 2023, however, the Leprosy Mission New Zealand is extending "A Call to Prayer" to any other Sunday in February and March 2023. This allows for greater participation as you can choose a Sunday in your church that works for you.

Helping us reach our goal of 2035 of "No child with leprosy", and creating a world where leprosy is a thing of the past, please join with us to pray the Leprosy Mission Prayer on any Sunday of your choice.

We would be most delighted to speak to you about World Leprosy Sunday and to share our exciting selection of FREE Church resources with you and if you would like to call me / or our team you could reach us on 0800 862 873 or go our website link www.leprosymission.org.nz/wls

PS: Our FREE Resources for Churches include church posters, prayer cards, a short 2-minute video, a sermon, as well as children's resources that may be used on your World Leprosy Sunday.

Once again, thank you for your support in dedicating a day to pray with thousands of others on your choice of a World Leprosy Sunday in 2023.

With every blessing,

Nadia Paul
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