



Current Issues in Prayer

February 2026

Welcome! The Pope invites people of good will to come together and pray **that children suffering from incurable diseases and their families receive the necessary medical care and support, never losing strength and hope.**



Getting started:

I sit down in a comfortable place and put aside my daily worries and preoccupations as I become aware of God's presence.



Short story:



In a small town, there was a hospital that stood as a symbol of hope and strength. It was not just a place of healing, but a sanctuary for families who faced the unthinkable – children battling incurable diseases. The power of love, resilience, and community were strongly felt.

Among many other children, Emily had a terminal incurable illness. Her parents, Sarah and Thomas, chose not to focus on the time they had left. Instead, they used their energy to create moments of joy for their daughter.

Everyday, Emily would sit by the window, imagining herself flying like the birds. Sarah would read to her, while Thomas would play her favourite songs on his guitar, creating a sense of peace.

One day, Sarah met another mother in the waiting room - Clara. Her son Daniel, who was a few years older than Emily, was also suffering from an incurable disease. The weight of their shared experience bonded them instantly. Over time, their friendship grew, and they leaned on each other for support. The hospital became their home away from home. The staff provided not just medical care, but emotional support too.

Clara and Sarah would organise birthday parties for the children. They decorated the halls with balloons and arranged for visitors to come and tell stories.

When Emily passed away, everyone grieved her. But along with sadness, there was a sense of strength and hope. Emily had taught them a lesson – that even in the darkest moments, love and hope can light the way.



Time to reflect:

This journey of pain, uncertainty and often helplessness, is a reminder of how fragile life is and how precious every moment with our loved ones truly is.



Let us pray:

Lord Jesus, we entrust our families fully into your hands. Be our refuge in affliction and our comfort in time of sorrow. Fortify our hearts with your love that we may bring joy where there is sadness and hope where there is despair.



Inspiration:

When 'I' is replaced by 'We', 'Illness' becomes 'Wellness'.

Malcolm X



Hands on:

I think of a family close to me, who needs my support. I try to be present and do my best to listen and respect their feelings. They may also need some practical support, such as preparing meals for them, and / or giving them a break by looking after their children.