World Day of the Sick celebrated in Fatima



- A joint organization of several institutions - The World Day of the Sick, on February 11, liturgical Memory of Our Lady of Lourdes/France, is celebrated every year by the Catholic Church. The Pope proposed for 2011 that the activities promoted in the various dioceses, on this Day, "should be a stimulus to make care for the suffering increasingly effective." At the Shrine, as a response to this exhortation from the Holy Father, a specific program has been prepared, which is open to all wishing to participate in it. The program begins at 14h00 with the prayer of the Rosary in the Little Chapel of Apparitions. At 15h00, in the Convívio de Santo Agostinho, in the underground floor of the Complex of Most Holy Trinity Church, there will be a conference and, at 16h00, there will be a Mass with the administration of the Sacrament of Holy Unction, at the Chapel of the Death of Jesus. The whole program is a joint organization of the Service to the Sick of the Shrine of Fatima, Silent Workers of the Cross, Movement of the Message of Fatima and Diocesan Service of the Pastoral Ministry of Health of the Diocese of Leiria-Fatima. Based in the reflection proposed by Pope Benedict XVI in his message for the World Day of the Sick 2011, in Fatima the initiative also has as motto: “By His Wounds you were healed” (1Pet 2, 24) The Pope says in his message: "Dear sick and suffering, it is precisely

through the wounds of Christ that we are able to see, with eyes of hope, all the evils that afflict humanity. In rising again, the Lord did not remove suffering and evil from the world, but he defeated them at their root. He opposed the arrogance of Evil with the omnipotence of his Love. He has shown us, therefore, that the way of peace and joy is Love: “Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another” (Jn 13:34)"

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