



ACCESS TO MEDICINES RESPONDING TO HIV/AIDS

THE CHALLENGE TO END MALARIA FOR GOOD.

Each year, the WHO and partners unite around a common World Malaria Day theme. Malaria remains both a major cause and a consequence of global poverty and inequity: the least developed areas and the poorest members of society are worst affected. Many of those most vulnerable – especially young children and pregnant women – are still not able to access the life-saving prevention, diagnosis and treatment they so urgently need.



The 2016 /2017 theme "End Malaria for Good" reflects the vision of a malaria-free world set out in the "*Global technical strategy for malaria 2016–2030*". The strategy adopted in 2015 by the World Health Assembly aims to dramatically lower the global malaria burden. Its goals include a reduction in malaria case incidence and mortality of at least 90% by 2030. (**Source WHO**)

According to the World Malaria Report 2016, in 2015, there were 212 million new cases of malaria and 429,000 deaths. One child dies from malaria every two minutes.

Lord Jesus Christ, your heart is full of compassion for all men and women, especially those in pain and need.

Help with your sacrifice of the Mass, let me not be wrapped up in my selfish concerns, but open to your presence in all your children.



Dates of Significance

- Mar 7 - Women's World Day of Prayer
- Mar 24 - World TB Day
- April 7 - World Health Day
- April 24 - World Immunisation Week
- April 25 - World Malaria Day

"How can we fail to think... of the access of everyone to generic medicines needed to continue the fight against current pandemics...often thwarted by short-term economic considerations?"

Pope John Paul II



Facts about Accessing Medicines

- 2 billion people in the world have no access to medicines (accesstomedicineindex.org)
- Low-income countries have ten times fewer physicians than high-income countries. Nigeria and Myanmar have about 4 physicians per 10 000, while Norway and Switzerland have 40 per 10 000. (WHO)
- In developing countries every second pregnant woman and about 40% of preschool children are estimated to be anaemic.
- In many developing countries, anaemia is aggravated by worm infections, malaria and other infectious diseases such as HIV and tuberculosis. This can result in poor pregnancy outcome, impaired physical and cognitive development, increased risk of morbidity in children and reduced work productivity in adults.
- Anaemia contributes to 20% of all maternal deaths. (WHO Iron Deficiency Anaemia)

World Immunisation Week

While aspects of the campaign to increase immunisation levels may differ each year, the message behind this week is always, '**Love Them. Protect Them. Immunize Them**' and parents are encouraged or reminded to have their children immunized by the age of 2. (WhatHealth .com)

One child dies every 20 seconds from a disease preventable by vaccine.

Children in remote rural regions and impoverished areas of cities in poor and emerging countries are not being vaccinated. Along with remote location and weak health services, lack of education and conflict can prevent children from getting the vaccinations they need to survive and thrive. Many developing countries also have inadequate 'cold chains' – meaning optimal temperature control for the transport, storage and handling of vaccines. Or, they are not able to manage vaccine stocks effectively, leading to insufficient vaccine supply to immunize all children.

New vaccines, like the ones against the viruses that spread pneumonia and severe diarrhoea (pneumococcal and rotavirus vaccine) are still too expensive for many countries to afford – even in middle-income countries. (UNICEF)

