Did you know that leprosy still exists?

St Francis Leprosy Guild is the UK's only Catholic leprosy charity.

We have cared for people with leprosy for over 130 years. We operate in eleven countries in Africa, Asia and in Brazil where leprosy is endemic.

We support over twenty-five leprosy centres and projects to play our part in caring for those affected by the disease and working towards a leprosy-free world.

We fund research projects, hospitals, rehabilitation centres and capital equipment. We also fund projects to find, diagnose and treat people with leprosy before it causes disability.

We believe that a leprosy-free world is within sight; if not today, then soon. Will you join us today and help us to see an end to this terrible disease?

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ST FRANCIS LEPROSY GUILD

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ST FRANCIS LEPROSY GUILD

Every two minutes someone is diagnosed with leprosy. That's over 700 people a day, and 10,000 children each year. Half of all countries in the world today report leprosy.*

Leprosy affects the poorest and most disadvantaged people in the world.

Leprosy is curable using antibiotics called Multidrug Therapy. But anyone living with undiagnosed leprosy is at risk of developing visible, life-changing disabilities (including clawed hands, drop-foot, blindness and tropical ulcers). They are also at risk of spreading the disease.

A lack of understanding about leprosy leads to stigma and social isolation for those with the disease. In some legal systems, the suspicion alone that someone has the disease results in rejection. Today, across the world, there are still over 80 apartheid-style laws which lead to the violation of civil, political and social rights of those with leprosy.*

We think there are up to four million people worldwide today who are affected by leprosy, either undiagnosed, or living with disabilities caused by leprosy, or subject to leprosy stigma.

Will you help us find, diagnose, treat and care for people with leprosy and see an end to this terrible disease?

*World Health Organization WER September 2026