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St. Catherine of Siena Rectory,  
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## President's Message

Dear Colleagues,

The month of May brings Blessings from Mary, Our Mother to nurses (especially on Nurses day, May 12) and to our patients, peers, colleagues and families. We can be grateful that we have such a beneficent mother at our beck and call all throughout the year.

Summer invites a time for rest and relaxation, and reflection. This summer might you reflect on submitting an abstract for our 2016 conference at Loyola College of Nursing, Chicago, IL? Our conference will focus on family health and healing in a Catholic nursing context. The call for abstracts will be out in July with a due date of December 1, 2015. We are looking for abstracts across the dimensions of nursing (administration, education, practice and research) in the institutional and community domains. I know Catholic nurses are involved in many family related dynamic activities locally, nationally, and internationally. We look forward to hearing from you.

Some changes are occurring on the NACN BOD. Diana Ruzicka (newsletter Editor). Mary Ann Haeuser (NW Representative) and Denise Quayle, (Treasurer) have competed their terms. We are eternally grateful for all the dedicated, selfless hard work offered by these Catholic professional women who serve as role models for all of us. NACN could not have progressed without their leadership.

We are pleased to welcome Marian Nowak as our new Newsletter Editor. Sharon Sables- Baus joins the Board as Treasurer and Margaret Olson joins as North Central representative. We are lucky to have this talent with us and look forward to working together in the future. In addition, the Bylaws committee headed by Jane Cardea has been busy working on the bylaws. An updated edition for the Bylaws will be circulated for you vote in the near future.

I wish you a summer filled with peace, play and productivity.

*Sincerely,*

*Diana M. L. Newman*

Diana M. L. Newman, EdD RN  
President NACN-USA

Follow us on Facebook©: <https://www.facebook.com/pages/National-Association-of-Catholic-Nurses-USA/226363700905728>

**World Meetings of Families, Philadelphia, 25-27 September 2015**

<http://www.worldmeeting2015.org/plan-your-visit/register/>



## Upcoming Events 2015

**June & October 2015**, North American Lourdes Volunteers (NALV), Special Needs Pilgrimage. Nurses, Physicians, Companions & Caregivers Needed. See dates below.  
[www.lourdesvolunteers.org](http://www.lourdesvolunteers.org) or [info@lourdesvolunteers.org](mailto:info@lourdesvolunteers.org)

**Jan 31** – Deadline for May 12-18, Warriors to Lourdes – 57<sup>th</sup> International Military Pilgrimage (see below).

**March 21** – Deadline for June 19-25, NALV St. Marianne Lourdes Assisted Pilgrimage for Sick & Disabled.  
[info@lourdesvolunteers.org](mailto:info@lourdesvolunteers.org); 315-476-0026

**May 12-18** – Annual Warriors to Lourdes, A Pilgrimage for Military Personnel for the 57<sup>th</sup> International Military Pilgrimage to Lourdes, France. For more information: [Lourdes@KofC.org](mailto:Lourdes@KofC.org); Register by Jan2015- [www.warriorstolourdes.com](http://www.warriorstolourdes.com)

**June 4 & 5-** ANA Ethics Conference, Baltimore, MD

**June 19-25** St. Marianne Lourdes Assisted Pilgrimage for Sick & Disabled. Register by 21March. [www.LourdesVolunteers.org](http://www.LourdesVolunteers.org); 315-476-0026

**July 13** – Deadline for October 11-17, NALV St. Bernadette Lourdes Assisted Pilgrimage for Sick & Disabled.  
[info@lourdesvolunteers.org](mailto:info@lourdesvolunteers.org); 315-476-0026

**Aug 31** – Deadline for registration – **2015 National Catholic Certification Program Health Care Ethics**, National Catholic Bioethics Center (NCBC), <http://www.ncbcenter.org/certification>

**Sep. 25-27** – World Meeting of Families, Philadelphia

**Sep 26 & 27** – Papal Visit - The Holy Father is expected to participate in the Festival of Families September 26. Papal Mass Sunday, September 27. Both of these events will be open to the public. (Registration to World Day of Families is not required).

**Oct 1-3** – Catholic Medical Association, 84<sup>th</sup> Annual Educational Conference, Philadelphia. <http://www.cathmed.org/>

**Oct. 4-25** – World Synod of Bishops, Vatican. Theme: “Jesus Christ reveals the mystery & vocation of the family.” Pray the Rosary Daily for this event: Participate in the worldwide 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday Eucharistic Adoration (see article).

**Oct 11-17** St. Bernadette Lourdes Assisted Pilgrimage for Sick & Disabled. Register by 13July. [www.LourdesVolunteers.org](http://www.LourdesVolunteers.org); 315-476-0026

July 26-31, 2016 - World Youth Day, Krakow, Poland

## REQUEST FROM THE AD HOC ARCHIVES/HISTORY COMMITTEE

Our committee will greatly appreciate your help with this tremendous project. All information will be archived in a newly created database and excerpts will be shared through this column and various other means with our members, affiliated councils, etc. Please email to: Cheryl Hettman, at [hettmanca@hotmail.com](mailto:hettmanca@hotmail.com) regarding any items you may have to contribute. Provide an initial brief description of the item(s), including specific events, locations, etc., and dates, if possible. Also note your name, email address, and phone number. One of the committee members will get back to you. We are interested in either obtaining the original item/ document (if you are willing to part with it) or a copy or photograph of any documents or other artifacts. Even if you do not have specific items but you have information to share, or know other contacts we can get in touch with, these things will also be helpful. On behalf of the Archives/History Committee, thank you in advance, and may God bless you for your assistance!

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### ANA CODE OF ETHICS REVISED

The American Nurses Association has announced the availability of a completely updated *Code of Ethics for Nurses with Interpretive Statements*. Dr. Marie Hilliard, JCL, PhD, RN, NACN board member and Brother Ignatius Perkins, OP, PhD, FAAN, RN, Dean of Aquinas College School of Nursing and NACN member, were members of the ANA Code Revision Advisory Committee. The NACN-USA has had serious concerns for the need to protect the consciences and religious freedoms of nurses, and to recognize the limits of patient autonomy. Health care providers are not dispensers of any request by a patient, regardless of the morality of such a request. It is of grave concern. The NACN-USA, through its Ethics and Spirituality Committee, will be reviewing this new *Code* and sharing its response with its members in the next newsletter. The *Code* can be accessed at: <http://www.nursesbooks.org/Main-Menu/Ethics/Code-of-Ethics.aspx>.

ANA will hold an Ethics Conference in Baltimore, MD, June 4-5. The ANA's **Ethics Symposium** will provide specific, action-focused ideas to improve ethical practice in the workplace. Advance rates through May 22. [http://www.nursingworld.org/MainMenuCategories/Conference/ANA-Ethics-Symposium?utm\\_source=Berman&utm\\_medium=All&utm\\_campaign=Ethics-Symp15&utm\\_term=ANA](http://www.nursingworld.org/MainMenuCategories/Conference/ANA-Ethics-Symposium?utm_source=Berman&utm_medium=All&utm_campaign=Ethics-Symp15&utm_term=ANA)

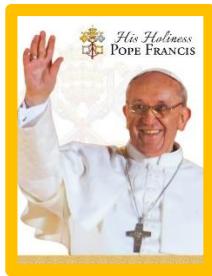
## EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION SOCIETY

The Eucharistic Adoration Society is a lay initiative founded in Rome in response to Pope Francis' request for prayer, promoting a worldwide Novena of Eucharistic Adoration in preparation for the October 2015 Ordinary Assembly of the Synod of Bishops, under the patronage of Saint Thérèse of Lisieux

Co-founded by Christine McCarthy, wife and mother of 6 and Diane Montagna, the Eucharistic Adoration Society is seeking to devote the first Thursday of each month, for nine consecutive months, beginning on February 5th and ending on October 1st, the Feast of St. Thérèse of Lisieux, three days before the opening of the Synod. <http://adorationforsynod2015.blogspot.it/>

### List of adoration dates:

Feb. 5 (St. Agatha) (13 <sup>th</sup> in Ordinary Time)	July 2
March 5 (Second Thursday of Lent) (Transfiguration)	Aug. 6
April 2 (Holy Thursday) (St. Gregory the Great)	Sept. 3



### Pope Francis in Philadelphia Trip Overview

The Holy Father confirmed he will make his first visit to the United States to take part in the World Meeting of Families. Pope Francis will visit Philadelphia September 25 – 27, 2015 to participate in the closing events of the Eighth World Meeting of Families. These events include the Festival of Families, an intercultural celebration of family life around the world, which would be held on Saturday, September 26, and a Papal Mass to be held on Sunday, September 27. Both of these events will take place on the



### 2016 Conference

Come to network and grow with your Catholic nursing colleagues.

The NACN-USA conference will be Co-sponsored with Loyola College of Nursing and held at Loyola CON in Chicago, Illinois in the spring 2016 the date is to be announced.

### PAPAL VISIT VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY FOR NURSES

By Dr. Marie Hilliard, RN, PhD, JCL

The World Meeting of Families was created by St. John Paul II in 1994. Sponsored by the Holy See's Pontifical Council for the Family, it occurs every three years in a different country. This year it will be held in Philadelphia.

In order to anticipate the needs of visitors to the area from as many as 130 countries, a Health Resources Committee, amongst others, has been formed to provide information for the sub-acute needs of participants. The first few days of the event is expected to draw upwards of 10,000 people culminating in the final day with a Mass attracting over 1.5 million people. We expect many of these visitors to have special medical needs in addition to the occasional emergency service. Among these might be the need for prescription drugs, visiting nurses, aides, durable

Benjamin Franklin Parkway in the heart of Philadelphia and will be open to the public.

## World Meeting of Families – Philadelphia 2015, September 22-27

### Location

Pennsylvania Convention Center  
1101 Arch Street  
Philadelphia, PA 19107

This site is highly accessible by train and other forms of public transportation. For details on directions other information on the Pennsylvania Convention Center, please visit their website: [www.paconvention.com](http://www.paconvention.com)

### Language

English is the official language of the Congress. Translation arrangements will be available.

### Registration/ Agenda

Please visit: [www.worldmeeting2015.org](http://www.worldmeeting2015.org)

medical equipment replacement or repair, walk in clinics staffed by physicians or nurses etc.

The Health Resources Committee will set up a “virtual office” where nurses can answer calls from visitors to direct them to pre-approved providers to meet their non-emergency needs. The nurses will not convey any medical advice but must be able to direct callers to the appropriate service.

The Committee is seeking nurse volunteers to man the telephone during that week on a rotational basis with nurse resources already available in the Philadelphia area. The duty hours for this have yet to be determined and the number of nurses needed remains unknown as yet.

Interested individuals may contact Dr. Jerry Francesco at [drjmf@comcast.net](mailto:drjmf@comcast.net).

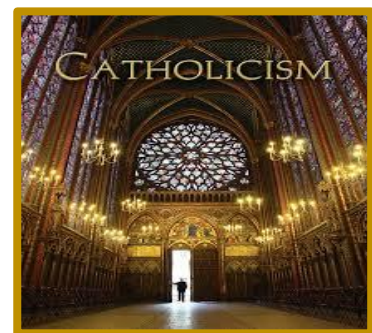
### *Prayer to be a Catholic Nurse*

*To be a nurse is to walk with God,  
Along the path that our Master trod;  
To soothe the aching of human pain,  
To faithfully serve for little gain,  
To lovingly do the kindly deed,  
A cup of water to one in need,  
A tender hand on a fevered brow,  
A word of cheer to those living now;  
To reach the souls through its body's woe  
Oh, this is the way that Jesus would go.  
Oh, white-capped nurses with hearts so true,  
Our Great Physician is working through you.*

(Retrieved from:  
<http://www.catholic.org/prayers/prayer.php?p=1450>)



*Nurses are daughters and sons of Christ...He is the author we are the pens...*



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## FREE CONSULTATION ON BIOETHICAL ISSUES

**THE NATIONAL CATHOLIC BIOETHICS CENTER (NCBC)** offers a free consultation service, by a credentialed bioethicist, who can share with you the Catholic principles for addressing an ethical dilemma involving health care or the life sciences. If you have a specific time-sensitive question concerning such a matter that cannot wait until regular business hours, please call: **(215) 877-2660, 24 hours/day, 7 days/week.** Follow the prompts to leave a message and an ethicist will be paged and respond to your call as soon as possible.

## Nursing Strategies ... Faith at the Bedside

*Faith is the substance of things hoped for,  
the evidence of things not seen. (Hebrews 11:1).*

*Practical tips to bring faith to your patients:*

- *Active listening*
- *Wear Religious symbols*
- *Bibliotherapy (reading spiritually uplifting materials, including sacred writings).*
- *Caring touch*
- *Journal writing/scrapbook*
- *Meditation*
- *Praying with or for clients*
- *Assisting clients in pray.*
- *Presence*
- *Offer Mass cards*
- *Offer Spiritual Communion Cards*

If your question is not related to a time sensitive matter please call the same number during regular business hours 9am - 5pm Eastern Time or use the online Consultation

Request Form at:

<http://www.ncbcenter.org/page.aspx?pid=1174>



### Information on Servants of Mary

The Servants of Mary (Servites) is a Catholic community of women religious and lay associates called to bring the compassionate presence of God, in the spirit of Mary, to all those whom we meet and with whom we minister.

We belong to an international community, the Order of Servants of Mary (OSM). Our Motherhouse (Our Lady of Sorrows Convent) is located in Omaha, NE. We have members across the country and around the world. Together, we are committed to a life rooted in prayer, community, and service.

For more information go to:

<http://www.osms.org/>

## REGIONAL & LOCAL COUNCIL NEWS

Resources for starting a local council are at [www.nacn-usa.org](http://www.nacn-usa.org) under: "About Us" / Local Councils



### NORTHEAST REGION

(PA, NY, CT, VT, NH, MA, ME, RI, NJ)

NE Regional Representative

Marie Hilliard, RN, PhD, JCL, Philadelphia, PA

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### Albany Council of Catholic Nurses

Joan Ribley-Borck, RN, BSN, President

[jborck@nycap.rr.com](mailto:jborck@nycap.rr.com)

Betty Novacek, Acting President, Somerset, MA

### COUNCIL(S) IN FORMATION:

#### Diocese of Trenton Council of Catholic Nurses

Maria Arvonio, RN, BSN, MA &

Patricia Sayers, RN, DNP, Trenton, NJ

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### Mid-South Area Association of Catholic Nurses

(MSAACN)

Jackie White,

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### COUNCIL(S) IN FORMATION:

#### Baltimore Council of the NACN

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### MIDWEST REGION

(ND, NE, OK, MN, WI, IL, KY, MO, AR, SD, KS, LA, MI, IA, IN, MS, OH)

MW Regional Representative

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### Council of Catholic Nurses of the Diocese of Joliet, IL

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### Council of Catholic Nurses of the Archdiocese of Chicago (CCNAC)

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### Council of Catholic Nurses of Lake County, IL

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### San Francisco Council of Catholic Nurses

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### **SOUTHWEST REGION**

(NV, UT, CO, AZ, NM, TX)

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### **Membership 2015**

You Can Help Grow Our NACN Membership. The person to recruits the greatest number of new members will get one free year NACN-USA membership.

New members – indicate who referred you in the online application.

Help spread the Catholic Nurse Voice by downloading, printing and sharing our new membership flyer at <https://nacn-usa.org>

## *CATHOLIC NURSES AT THE UN*



The International Catholic Committee of Nurses and Medico-Social Assistants (CICIAMS) is in consultative status as an NGO (Non-governmental Organization). Located within Vatican City, the International Catholic Nurses were represented by four American nurses who serve as delegates to the United Nations. This team of nurse delegates is committed to bringing acceptable solutions to the current discussions on the upcoming UN Sustainable Development Goals for the world. On April 13-17, 2015,

Patricia Sayers, DNP, RN, Marian Nowak, DNP, RN, MPH, Maria Arvonio, BSN, MA, RN, and Patricia Staley, RN recently crafted a statement that reflected Catholic values and was approved by CICIAMS Executive Board.

### **Cultural Competency**

Health and healing involve the whole person: body, mind, and spirit. Persons regardless of age, sex, disability, race, ethnicity, origin, religion, and economic status benefit from culturally sensitive care and related accommodations.

### **Subsidiarity**

Involvement of individuals, families, and communities in their own health fosters responsibility and relieves the global community of burden. The family has the greatest motivation to reduce mortality and disease among members due to proximity and relationship among loved ones.

### **Human Rights**

“... all patients have a fundamental right...to consent to or to refuse treatment, and to be informed about relevant risk ...”, advises The World Health Organization ( WHO n.d.). The three elements of informed consent include:

*The team then traveled to the UN on April 17, to ensure the statement was delivered at the 48<sup>th</sup> session of the Commission on Population and Development.* All the USA delegates were present while Dr. Sayers delivered the statement. It clearly outlined the concerns of CICIAMS on the population reduction methods. The ethical and moral consequences of the present programs to limit births around the globe.

The full statement is included below. There were one of only two organizations giving life affirming testimony to the UN Commission. CICIAMS and a well-respected UN research and policy organization C-Fam. Most of the NGOs were represented by young post-college women demanding cultural and economic support for comprehensive sex education, sexual freedom for all and contraception and abortion provided to all citizens of the world.

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## **READ THE FULL UN STATEMENT HERE**

International Catholic Committee of Nurses and  
Medico-Social Assistants  
48<sup>th</sup> Session of the Commission on Population  
April 13-17, 2015

Secretariat of the Commission, distinguished panel members and guests:

Health is foundational to all human endeavors. Nurses provide 90% of healthcare world-wide and in many disparate and remote areas, nurses are frequently the sole healthcare provider. Global nursing will greatly influence 2015 SDG achievements. Our international organization offers the following statements regarding fertility health, child spacing, individual/family health, cultural competency, subsidiarity, human rights, and sustained development

### **Sustained Development**

Organizations need to work together to build and to maintain schools of nursing near locations underserved and/or identified as disaster prone to improve and sustain regional resources.

### **Fertility Health, Child Spacing, and Individual/Family Health**

Fertility is an integral part of total self. Understanding the body, fertility and life cycle development from human conception to human adulthood is paramount. It is of concern, that the primary method of fertility suppression is hormonal manipulation via estrogen, which is a Class I carcinogenic, and via progesterone, which is linked to blood clotting that causes stroke and heart attack in women of childbearing years and cancer. The widely distributed Depo Provera is found to have a 3.3 fold risk of poor prognosis, triple negative breast cancer. However, overlooked are the modern methods of fertility care such as the Creighton Model, that are ninety-five percent effective, natural, easily taught from mother to daughter, and free. Compounding the burden women bear in fertility, is that tragically over 43 million pre-born children are aborted yearly. Abortion risks future fertility, breast cancer, and Post-abortion Syndrome, among many other risks. In an effort to limit the gift of children born, the programs utilized are harming women.

### **A closing quote: Mother Theresa, United Nations, October 26, 1985**

“...let us make a strong resolution that in our countries,...in our cities, we will not allow a single child to feel unwanted, to feel unloved,...And let us help each other to strengthen, ...that in our countries that terrible law of killing innocents, of destroying life, destroying the presence of God, be removed from our country,...from our people, from our families...as we see God in each other, we will be able to live in peace, and if we live in peace, we will be able to share the joy of loving each other and God will be with us.

We Thank You. CICIAMS MEMBERS FROM AFRICA, ASIA, CENTRAL AMERICA, EUROPE, NORTH AMERICA, OCEANIA, and SOUTH AMERICA

CICIAMS GENERAL SECRETARIAT, Palazzo San Calisto (Piazza San Calisto 16), 00120, Vatican City, Phone: +390669887372+390669887372.

**Email** [ciciams@eircom.net](mailto:ciciams@eircom.net)

also NACN-USA – <http://nacn-usa.org>



### Medicare Concerns

By: Dr. Marie T. Hilliard, MS (Maternal Child Health Nursing), MA (Religious Studies), JCL (Canon Lawyer), PhD, RN

The National Association of Catholic Nurses-U.S.A. (NACN) is a signatory with over 500 healthcare, patient, employer, veteran groups to a letter to Congress calling for repeal of the Independent Payment Advisory Board (IPAB). IPAB is responsible for making cuts to Medicare expenditures if program spending reaches a certain level established by statute. However, the IPAB is comprised of executive branch appointees. Their recommendations to the Secretary of Health and Human Services, if implemented, are not subject to judicial review. As the letter to Congress put it, “An unelected board without adequate oversight or accountability would be taking actions historically reserved for the public’s elected representatives in the U.S. House and Senate.” Clearly, this is not in the best interest of our Nation’s health, especially the health of vulnerable persons whose only health care coverage is through Medicare.

See: <http://www.hlc.org/2015/05/over-500-healthcare-patient-employer-veteran-groups-call-on-congress-to-repeal-independent-payment-advisory-board/>

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### The NACN-U.S.A. Advocates for Religious Freedom

By: Dr. Marie T. Hilliard, MS (Maternal Child Health Nursing), MA (Religious Studies), JCL (Canon Lawyer), PhD, RN

The NACN-U.S.A. again has been a signatory to an *amicus* brief in support of the right of organizations, especially faith-based organizations, to the free-exercise of religion guaranteed by both the First Amendment of the United States Constitution, as well as the Religious Freedom Restoration Act of our federal statutes.

The U.S. Court of Appeals for the Eight District is hearing the appeal of Ozark College, a Christian college denied injunctive relief by a lower court and with an order of dismissal of their complaint by the United States District Court for the Western District of Missouri Southern Division. Ozark College had sought relief from being mandated to violate its religious freedom by the unjust contraceptive mandate imposed by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, implementing some provisions of the *Affordable Care Act* (HHS Mandate). Ozark College is seeking relief from being forced to provide, through the contract with an insurance provider for which the College pays premiums, abortion inducing drugs and devices to their employees. These egregious attacks on religious liberty continue to escalate, and the NACN-U.S.A. continues to advocate against such unjust mandates. To date the NACN-U.S.A. has been a signatory to eight such *amicus* briefs against the unjust HHS Mandate

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## Faith Community Nursing: Remembering Westberg Symposium 2015

By: Maureen Daniels, MN, RN



The Westberg Symposium is an annual gathering of faith community nurses, clergy and others who are interested in health ministry to learn, share, network and grow together in the environment of hope, healing and compassionate care. It is sponsored by the International Parish Nurse Resource Center (IPNRC) that now lives in Memphis under the home of the Church Health Center. It is one of the very few conferences of its kind focused on Faith Community Nursing and its specialty practice. The opportunity to be together to worship, learn, make new friends and update knowledge and ministry skills makes this event a very special time for all who can come.

This year's theme of "Foundations and Futures: Joining in the Song of Faith Community Nursing" was especially appropriate, including an FCN Choir. Focus was given to advancing the practice, intentional care of the spirit, self-care strategies, and exploring the effect of music in wholistic care. Research that supports the unique benefits to faith community members and communities was explored by various FCN practitioners, and nursing scholars. Dr. Susan Dyess, Dr. Susan Chase, and PhDC Deborah Ziebarth shared their Faith Community Nursing theories from their research. Dr. Jean Watson, Distinguished Professor and Dean Emerita, University of Colorado Denver, College of Nursing Anschutz Medical Center campus, presented information on caring science. Her description of the theory of Human Caring and the 10 caritas processes as sacred practice was very supportive to our specialty practice.

Keith G. Meador, MD, Th M, MPH, is Professor of Psychiatry and Health Policy at Vanderbilt University. He presented the Granger Westberg Memorial lecture on the Formation for Care: Spiritual Formation, Practices of Care and Hope in the Midst... He spoke to the sense of hope that Faith Community Nursing can bring to the healthcare system when its paths and ends can become very distorted by our culture. Gratitude, hospitality, forgiveness, and caring are essential parts of the practices of care. Additional presentations included a panel on music uses for spiritual care. Another panel discussed Faith Community Nurses Impact on Clergy and Clergy Health, including Mary Diane Steltenkamp's work with her bishop in Oklahoma City and Judy Lightowler's work with Lutheran pastors in rural northern Minnesota, and her efforts to help improve their choices.

Our Catholic FCN group met, with 35 or more in attendance from the US and abroad. We discussed our purpose focused on networking, sharing ideas, discussing resources and offering spiritual support with one another. One valuable resource includes this web location [www.chausa.org](http://www.chausa.org) (under nursing/ Parish Nursing). Alma Abuelouf, immediate past president of the NACN presented information about NACN-USA.

Some practical "tips" for the nurses to consider include:

- Participate in the Mass (White Mass) for Health Professionals on a diocesan level. Check with your diocese for this celebration & get the word out.
- Celebrates a Mass for Catholic Nurses on Nurses Day each year.
- Seek Scholarship to support new nurses (See Catholic Foundations)
- Develop a "Nurse of the Year." award
- Share the Bishops' Prayer for Peace ( [USCCB.org](http://USCCB.org) website for more prayers/US Council of Catholic Bishops).
- Ministering Holy Communion to a person who is NPO- offer a "spiritual communion" card.
- Develop a blog, Facebook page or establish a group on Linked.
- Offer FCN prayers, support, prayer shaw, or other symbol of faith.

Collaboration strategies to work with deacons, priests, bishops, archbishops and cardinals:

- Make an appointment to speak with your bishop about FCN
- Share stories from our ministries with r clergy.
- Ask to be placed on deanery level agenda.
- Present work for to the diocese or Catholic Charities.
- Work with homes/facilities for retired priests and religious
- Place articles in CHA news, diocesan newspapers, on local cable stations on Sunday mornings (perhaps an interview with a practicing FCN)
- Participate with Right to Life focusing on teens & young adult issues.

All in attendance had a very fulfilling time in Memphis and invite any or all who would like to join us to do so. Next year's Westberg Symposium may return to the original site in Chicago for our 30 anniversary year. It will be full of history and more shared life as FCNs. You won't want to miss it! Even if Faith Community Nursing is new to you, please come and share the wonderful community of compassion, hope and healing!



For more information on Parish Nursing contact Maureen Daniels RN MN at [mdaniels@churchhealthcenter.org](mailto:mdaniels@churchhealthcenter.org)

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## Thoughts on the Totality of Catholic Healthcare

By: The Reverend Michael Whyte, St. Catherine of Siena, West Simsbury Connecticut-NACN-USA Priest Chaplain.

As Catholics we know that proper healthcare is both corporeal and spiritual. We are confident that true healthcare is more than a repair of the heart or mending a broken bone, or soothing a brain injury—it is more about just living well to a ripe old age. Complete healthcare needs to comprise the healing of the body and lead to the healing of the immortal soul. Jesus Christ was right when He came to feed the hungry, heal the withered hand, and forgive and heal the soul—offering a complete healthcare package that cared for body and soul.

Our broken world today, and not just our healthcare system, is bereft with problems. One job as Catholic Christians is to carry on Christ's mission and ministry in the healthcare field. And there is a great deal we can accomplish in the material world when it comes to Catholic healthcare in America so to provide every human person—Catholic and non-Catholic alike—with what they need when it comes to healthcare. And this can only be accomplished when our government, our families, and our faith communities work hand-in-hand.

From ethical research on treatments and cures to the equitable distribution of care to those in need, to prayer, faith and family unity—is the complete recipe for a better healthcare answer in our nation. For those who fail to see faith and reason as “dance partners” and not adversaries, they need only look to the prolific writings of Emeritus Pope Benedict XVI who noted that “Science gives us the tools to manage the world but faith and wisdom teach what the heart desires.”

Our American healthcare system is in great trouble. And it's not just the costs associated with improved health or new medicines or the ethical questions weaved into a secular and convenience-orientated society that is failing us. A culture that includes a broken family structure that fails to knit the family together with support and hope, and a culture which calls us to be self-obsessed and careless about our lifestyle choices—drugs and alcohol abuse at alarming rates—and a society that is so emphasized on material success that work for many is now a 24/7 lifestyle.

The antidote to all this is a return to family, faith and caregiving. And that doesn't mean settling for less. It means demanding that we as a society prioritize caring for each other—from the time we are in the womb until we face the tomb. It calls us to be a prayerful people who use our “eyes of the heart” to see the needs of others and then to search for the best ways to assist them in meeting their needs. The antidote to some of our problems calls us to ask for God's help—and each other's help—in encourage our communities to strengthen family ties and values, in building-up married couples and family units so that a healthy home is where we all begin. In that beautiful experiment we will see the mind and the heart grow, our intellect expanded leading to cures and treatments, and our hearts strengthened to lead us to true compassionate care. Perhaps this will redirected our short-sighted thoughts on ending life with physician-assisted suicide laws and rather expand palliative and hospice care where not only pain

management is offered, but also the support to discuss and solved all our end-of-life questions relating to talking with our spouses, our children and preparing ourselves to meet God and being the fullness of life His Kingdom.

This year we will see Pope Francis come to the United States and speak on a host of family issues. May his faith and prayer lead us all to have true discussions on healthcare, on family, and on faith—so that we might all do the real work inspired on Pentecost to be His disciples building up the Kingdom of God on earth as we await its fullness when He comes again...bringing us the one, real healthcare delivery system...delivering Eternal Life...a complete healing.



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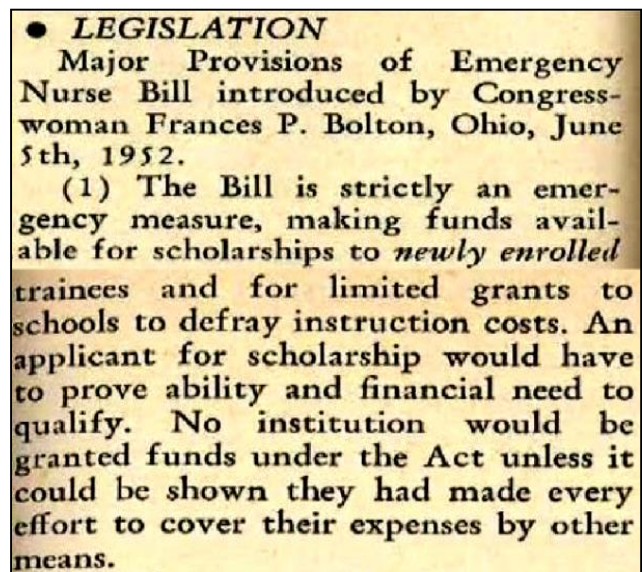
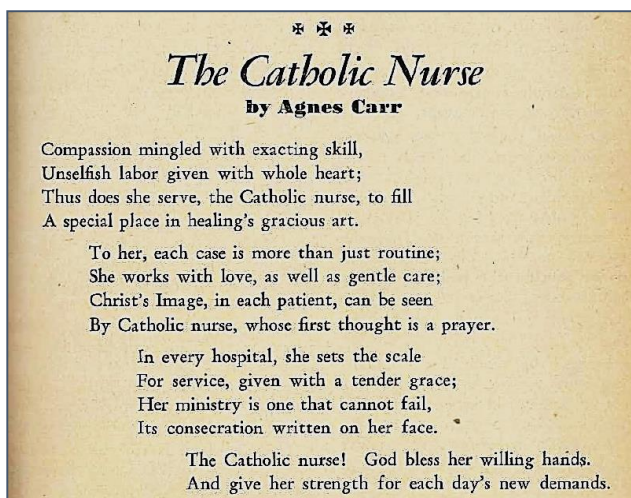
### THE NACN-USA AD HOC ARCHIVES/HISTORY COMMITTEE (BRIEF #3) By: Cheryl Hettman, PhD, RN Committee Chair

The purpose of this new column is to ignite the passions of NACN and affiliated Council members everywhere by exploring the history of Catholic Nurses in America. In this *Brief #3*, Dr. Cheryl Hettman, of the Archives/History Committee (A&HC), offers just a small peek into one of the great “hallmarks” of our organizations past.

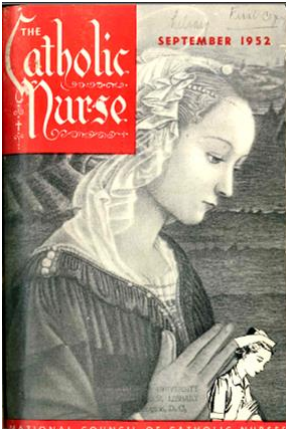
Did you know, that once upon a time there was a journal called *The Catholic Nurse*? Well, it is not a fairy tale – there really was a professional journal by this title, and it was published as the official journal of our original national Catholic organization for nurses – the National Council of Catholic Nurses of the United States of America, which preceded our current NACN-USA (1940 – 1970). Of course, if you were paying attention to the first article by

concerned with the curing of the sick. The New Testament tells this story over and over again. That Charity that was manifested by Christ set the pattern that must be practiced by every Christian nurse” (Goebel, 1952, p. 43). How very true!

Two items listed in the contents are actually poems, including the one below by (Carr, 1952, p. 13).



the A&HC in the Fall Newsletter, you already knew this!



The first issue of *The Catholic Nurse* was published by the NCCN in September 1952, as you can see by the following picture of the cover of the inaugural issue (Vol.1, Issue.1).

This initial publication was printed by the NCCN with the assistance of then Archbishop of Boston, Richard J. Cushing, who served as the 1st editor. Check out the table of contents below.

The final issue of this quarterly journal was printed in 1969, not long before NCCN disbanded.

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Some pretty interesting topics, don't you think! In the article titled, *The Spirit of Nursing*, Msgr. Goebel writes, "For those of us who are concerned with the care of the sick, the hospital is a haven of Christ-like peace. Looking back to the beginning of the Christian Era, it is a great comfort to know that most of Christ's miracles were

In a section of the journal called, "NCCN News Items" (NCCN, 1952, p. 50) one of the entries (found below) was quite interesting and had the subtitle, "Legislation." Do you recognize the congress woman? Think Cleveland...

Another "newsworthy item" addressed the volunteer contributions that were common practice in earlier councils (NCCN, p. 50)

Perhaps, as they say, "we can learn from the past," and give serious consideration in our current times of the need to step out of our comfort zone and to reach out in service to those less fortunate - just as Pope Francis has been encouraging us to do. +++

#### Ad Hoc Archives/History Committee Members

- ❖ Cheryl A. Hettman, PhD, RN (Committee Chair) – Independent Nursing Consultant/Nurse Educator, P.R.N., Inc, Washington, PA; and Adjunct Faculty, Villa Maria School of Nursing, Gannon University, Erie, PA
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- ❖ Karen J. Egenes, RN, EdD, CNE - Loyola University Chicago, IL
- ❖ Marcia Stout, DNP, APN, FNP-C, CWON - Rosalind Franklin University, Chicago, IL

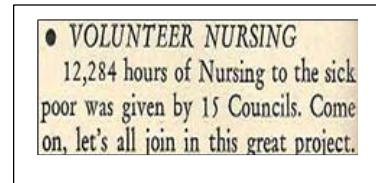
**History Notes.** The symbol below for NACN-USA was developed by Marylee Meehan, RN, MSN, Current Pontifical Council Nursing Representative. Marylee is a long standing activist and leader in NACN.



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### References

- Carr, A. (1952). The Catholic nurse. *The Catholic Nurse*, 1(1), p. 13.
- Goebel, E.J. (1952). The spirit of nursing. *The Catholic Nurse*, 1(1), p. 43.
- National Council of Catholic Nurses (NCCN). (1952). N.C.C.N. news items. *The Catholic Nurse*, 1(1), p. 50.



### **REQUEST FROM THE AD HOC ARCHIVES/HISTORY COMMITTEE**

Please look into your personal archives for items pertaining to your local council or the national or international organization. Our committee would greatly appreciate your help with this tremendous project. All information will be archived in a newly created database and excerpts will be shared through this column and various other means with our members, affiliated councils, etc. Please email to:

Cheryl Hettman, at [hettmanca@hotmail.com](mailto:hettmanca@hotmail.com) regarding any items you may have to contribute. Provide an initial brief description of the item(s), including specific events, locations, etc., and dates, if possible. Also note your name, email address, and phone number. One of the committee members will get back to you. We are interested in either obtaining the original item/ document (if you are willing to part with it) or a copy or photograph of any documents or other artifacts. Even if you do not have specific items but you have information to share, or know other contacts we can get in touch with, these things will also be helpful. On behalf of the Archives/History Committee, thank you in advance, and may God bless you for your assistance!



## **OTHER IMPORTANT NEWS**

### **Honor and prayers for the soul of Cardinal George**

*Submitted By: Peg Olson*

Archbishop Blase J. Cupich's Statement on the Passing of Francis/Cardinal George, OMI, Archbishop Emeritus of Chicago/April 17, 2015

A man of peace, tenacity and courage has been called home to the Lord. Our beloved Cardinal George passed away today at 10:45 a.m. at the Residence. Cardinal George's life's journey began and ended in Chicago. He was a man of great courage who overcame many obstacles to become a priest. When he joined the priesthood he did not seek a comfortable position, instead he joined a missionary

order, the Oblates of Mary Immaculate, and served the people of God in challenging circumstances – in Africa, Asia and all around the world.

A proud Chicagoan, he became a leader of his order and again traveled far from home, not letting his physical limitations moderate his zeal for bringing the promise of Christ's love where it was needed most. When he was ordained a bishop, he served faithfully, first in Yakima, where he learned Spanish to be closer to his people. He then served in Portland, where he asked the people to continue to teach him how to be a good bishop. In return, he promised to help them become good missionaries.

Cardinal George was a respected leader among the bishops of the United States. When, for example, the church struggled with the grave sin of clerical sexual abuse, he stood strong among his fellow bishops and insisted that zero tolerance was the only course consistent with our beliefs. He served the Church universal as a Cardinal and offered his counsel and support to three Popes and their collaborators in the Roman congregations. In this way, he contributed to the governance of the Church worldwide.

Here in Chicago, the Cardinal visited every corner of the Archdiocese, talking with the faithful and bringing kindness to every interaction. He pursued an overfull schedule-- always choosing the church over his own comfort and the people over his own needs. Most recently, we saw his bravery first hand as he faced the increasing challenges brought about by cancer.

Let us heed his example and be a little more brave, a little more steadfast and a lot more loving. This is the surest way to honor his life and celebrate his return to the presence of God. Please join me in offering comfort to Cardinal George's family, especially his sister, Margaret, by assuring them of our prayers, thanking God for his life and years of dedication to the Archdiocese of Chicago. Let us pray that God will bring this good and faithful servant into the fullness of the kingdom.

May Cardinal George rest in peace.

+++Espanol+++

Declaración del Arzobispo Blase J. Cupich con motivo del fallecimiento del Cardenal Francis George, OMI, Arzobispo Emérito de Chicago 17 de abril de 2015. Un hombre de paz, tenacidad y coraje ha sido llamado a casa con el Señor. Nuestro amado Cardenal George falleció hoy a las 10:45 a.m. en la Residencia.

El camino de la vida del Cardenal George comenzó y terminó en Chicago. Él fue un hombre de una gran valentía que superó muchos obstáculos para llegar a ser sacerdote. Cuando se unió al sacerdocio no buscó una posición cómoda; en lugar de esto se enroló en una orden misionera, los Oblatos de María nmaculada, y sirvió al pueblo de Dios en circunstancias difíciles – en África, Asia y alrededor del mundo.

Ciudadano orgulloso de Chicago, se convirtió en líder de su orden y volvió a viajar lejos de casa, sin dejar que sus limitaciones físicas moderaran su celo por llevar la promesa del amor de Cristo, a donde más se necesitaba. Cuando fue ordenado obispo, sirvió fielmente, primero en Yakima, donde aprendió español para estar más cerca de su pueblo. Luego se desempeñó en Portland, donde pidió a la gente que continuara enseñándole cómo ser un buen obispo. A cambio, se comprometió a ayudarlos a ser buenos misioneros.

El Cardenal George era un líder respetado entre los obispos de los Estados Unidos. Un ejemplo de esto fue cuando la iglesia tuvo que enfrentarse al grave pecado del abuso sexual clerical y él se mantuvo fuerte entre sus compañeros obispos e insistió en que la tolerancia cero era la única vía consistente con



nuestras creencias. Sirvió a la Iglesia universal como cardenal y ofreció su consejo y apoyo a tres Papas y a sus colaboradores en las congregaciones romanas. De esta manera, contribuyó a la gestión institucional de la Iglesia en todo el mundo.

Aquí en Chicago, el cardenal visitó todos los rincones de la arquidiócesis, en donde habló con los fieles y trató con bondad cada interacción. Se dedicó a cumplir una agenda llena de compromisos, eligiendo siempre atender a la iglesia antes que a su propia comodidad y al pueblo antes que a sus propias necesidades. En fechas recientes hemos sido testigos de su valentía al enfrentar las crecientes dificultades que le causó el cáncer.

Prestemos atención a su ejemplo y seamos un poco más valientes, un poco más firmes y mucho más amorosos. Esta es la forma más segura de honrar su vida y celebrar su regreso a la presencia de Dios. Ahora que Señor resucitado, ofrezcamos juntos, ustedes y yo, consuelo a la familia del Cardenal George, especialmente a su hermana, Margaret, asegurándoles nuestras oraciones, dando gracias a Dios por su vida y por sus años de dedicación a la Arquidiócesis de Chicago. Oremos para que Dios traiga a este siervo bueno y fiel a la plenitud de su reino.

Que el Cardenal George descanse en paz.

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## Mission Work in Africa

By: Chad Ribordy



### Nursing in Africa: A Call to Be God's Helper

Every nurse is God's Helper. Every patient you see; every hand you hold; the days and nights that you sacrifice your own needs for others - ***you are God's Helpers.***

There are some "helpers," nurses and other professionals, who have packed a bag, left behind friends and family, to follow a call they have heard in their hearts to care for patients in hospitals and clinics, and to teach in schools around the world. They move to the outer edges of their comfort zones in response to this call. For 60 years, Lay Mission-Helpers Association (LMH) has made it possible for

these dedicated, faith-filled individuals, couples and families, to go into the mission fields of Africa, Asia, Latin America and the Pacific.

LMH had its humble beginnings through a transformative event in the life of Msgr. Anthony Brouwers, the then Los Angeles Archdiocesan Director of the Propagation of the Faith. In 1954, Msgr. Brouwers traveled to Lagos, Nigeria for the Marian Congress. After the Congress, Monsignor traveled throughout Africa by train and boat, on foot, in trucks, jeeps and by motorcycle. He met with sisters, priests and bishops who were burdened with hundreds of tasks they were neither trained, nor in many cases, qualified to do - everything from caring for the sick, to publishing newspapers, trying to lay bricks, pulling teeth and repairing diesel engines.

What Msgr. Brouwers was told throughout his travels was “***We Need Help!***” Returning to Los Angeles in 1955 he founded the Lay Mission-Helpers Association to begin to meet these needs. Lay Mission-Helpers Association became the first program in the United States to send lay Catholics to serve in the foreign missions. Sixty years ago, even before Vatican II, Msgr. Brouwers recognized that lay people could be prepared for mission service. Nurses have always been an integral part of this mission.

Grace Gonzalez is one of these nurses. A native of Berkeley, California, Grace studied at the USC Nursing School and began a long career in the pediatric nursing including the NIC unit at Methodist Hospital in Arcadia, California. But something was always calling her forth—she had a profound curiosity about the world and wanted to use her skills in an entirely different setting. She entered the Lay Mission-Helpers four-month formation program and soon after found herself in rural West Africa. While her long career gave her years of direct patient care, she had never taught in nursing school, but that is what this Franciscan Hospital needed her to do. “*So I walked into my first class ever and said to myself, ‘Okay God, You got me here. Now You teach.’*” Thus began her four year career as a teacher of nurses at St. Elizabeth Hospital in Shisong, Cameroon.

[Photo: Grace Gonzalez with nursing students at St. Elizabeth, Cameroon]

Grace commented that the best aspects of teaching were the nursing students themselves. “*They really tried hard to do the best they could with the little resources they had. They wanted to be there for their patients, to really care for them.*” But it was an adjustment to enter the nursing world of Cameroon. “*I came to Africa prepared to teach how to use something basic like an incubator, but then discovered that that knowledge was useless because there were no incubators.*” She had to teach skills the students would be able to use given the resources available. Language was also a barrier, even though most study English in school. “*I don’t understand you,’ the students would say, and then I would have to write everything on the board,*” Grace commented.

Grace shared that one difference between hospital care in the US and Cameroon, is that in Cameroon, the family is expected to accompany sick family members in the hospital and help care for them, to provide their food, and to be responsible for them. “*I liked that about the hospital. I found that people would heal much quicker because they were never alone.*”

What advice does she have for nurses thinking of doing mission work? “*Do it! No matter what you hear or read about a place, you have to be there! It is a whole new world. It is the best thing I have ever done in my life. It was hard, but looking back now, I am glad I did it.*”

Alicia Adajar-Duante is taking that advice. In June she will be sent to the exact hospital where Grace served 10 years ago. Adajar-Duante, born in Batangas, Philippines, has been an RN in the United States since 1972. Having recently retired, she decided that now is the time to realize a dream she had since she was a little girl: to be a missionary. A parishioner of St. Francis de Sales in Riverside, California, she sought out the advice of Fr. Lou Abdoo, who is himself a Consolata missionary priest. He told her that he had worked with Lay Mission-Helpers in Kenya, and highly recommended the organization. Adajar-Duante said she hopes she will become a more compassionate person. “*In the past, I have been selective with my compassion. Being a mission nurse will teach me to be compassionate to everyone!*” When asked how her Catholic faith will be a part of her work, she replied, “*I will make my prayer what I do.*”

Demand is great for Catholic nurses abroad, especially in Africa. **Consider joining us!** Lay Mission-Helpers accepts applications from nurses year-round. There is upcoming weekend discernment June 5-7, and another to be scheduled in September.

For those not able to go - **you can help make it possible for another nurse to serve.** Only \$5.00 per day represents the stipend provided to a nurse by LMH - **you can make their mission possible!** Visit our site at [www.laymissionhelpers.org](http://www.laymissionhelpers.org). or contact: **Chad Ribordy** Associate Director Lay Mission-Helpers/3435 Wilshire Blvd., Suite 1940/Los Angeles, CA 90010 (213) 368-1874.

**Live your faith... share your gifts... and change the world...**



National Association of Catholic Nurses-USA  
c/o Diocese of Joliet  
Blanchette Catholic Center  
1655 Weber Road  
Crest Hill, IL 60403

**Please share this newsletter with nurses in your diocese.**

**Our Mission:** The National Association of Catholic Nurses, U.S.A. gives nurses of different backgrounds, but with the same Roman Catholic values, the opportunity to promote moral principles within the Catholic context in nursing and stimulate desire for professional development. This approach to Roman Catholic doctrine focuses on educational programs, spiritual nourishment, patient advocacy, and integration of faith and health. As we continue to share our faith and values with each other, and with other healthcare providers, we simultaneously reach outward to the larger Church and also our communities, as we offer support to those in need.

**Objectives:**

- To promote education in Catholic nursing ethics
- To nurture spiritual growth
- To provide guidance, support and networking for Catholic nurses and nursing students, as well as other healthcare workers who support the Catholic mission.
- To advocate for those in need through efforts which integrate faith and health



**NACN MEMBERSHIP:**

Current dues are \$35/yr and can be paid via the website <http://www.nacn-usa.org/> or a check mailed to the treasurer at: Denise Quayle, 564 Franklin Farms Road, Washington, PA 15301. Please enter the year the dues are for on the check. Thank you for renewing.



**EDITOR'S NOTE:** We invite you to submit manuscripts, news briefs, prayer requests, poetry, photos, and/or articles that would be of interest to Catholic nurses across the United States.

**Welcome for those joining. Articles must be received by the following deadlines to be considered for the newsletter:**

- Fall (Published in September): August 18
- Winter (published in January): December 18
- Summer (published in June): May 18

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