



Dear Catholic Nurse,

Let me first say how honored I am to have the opportunity to speak to you as a sister in Christ. Though we all may have gone into nursing for different reasons, we each have a calling to serve. In this time when many changes are occurring in the healthcare field, it is important that faithful Catholic nurses and student nurses are united in supporting the dignity of each human person, each other, their parish, diocese and the Church. The National Association of Catholic Nurses-USA (NACN-USA) provides this support and builds community and fellowship among its members.

The NACN-USA was initially formed following the 1930 formation of the International Catholic Committee for Nurses and Medico-Social Assistants (CICIAMS) in Lourdes. Disbanded for 20 years after the turbulent years of the 1970's, there was great interest from the local councils who remained to reestablish the national organization. Between 1993 and 1994, the NACN-USA was newly formed under the auspices of the Diocese of the Joliet, Illinois. In October, 1994, the Association became a full voting member of CICIAMS, thus all NACN-USA members are of CICIAMS through the Association. Two years later, in October of 1996, NACN-USA was approved by the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops for inclusion in the "official Catholic Directory" under the Joliet Diocese.

The NACN-USA is a membership organization for nurses who share the same Catholic values and principles. Our mission is to give nurses and student 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. We also believe that through this organization we provide a source of community for student nurses and new nurses, that we may support them in this new phase of their career.

Becoming a member includes being part of the Catholic Nurse Voice and networking with those who share your faith and values, spiritual and ethical insights, resources and links, members only area on the website, current issues and news, and opportunities to serve as an officer in the national organization. We also provide newsletters, education opportunities and conferences. For more information and to join NACN-USA please visit <http://www.nacn-usa.org>. Like us on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/pages/national-association-of-Catholic-Nurses-USA>.

If I can be of service, do not hesitate to contact me. May God bless and protect you as you care for those in need.

In His Holy Name,

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