



NACN-USA

where **NURSING**, **MINISTRY**, and **CATHOLIC MISSION** meet



WELCOME!

where NURSING, MINISTRY, and CATHOLIC MISSION meet
“Unity in Charity”

National Association of Catholic Nurses, USA (NACN-USA)



Bonnie Blachly, MN, BSN, RN, CEOLD
NACN-USA President (2025-2027)

Information Session 2025



Judith Boyle DNP, RN
NACN-USA President-Elect (2025-2027)



Spiritual Direction

Priest Chaplain

Rev. Michael G. Whyte

West Simsbury, Connecticut

Appointed on July 31, 2013 by the Most Reverend R. Daniel Conlon, Bishop of Joliet with the acknowledgement and approval of the Most Reverend Henry J. Mansell, Archbishop of Hartford, and at the recommendation of the NACN-USA Board of Directors.



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Opening Prayer

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Prayer to Saint Catherine of Siena for the Protection of Nurses

Dearest Saint Catherine of Siena, faithful servant of our Lord, we come before you with humble hearts, seeking your intercession for the protection of nurses and healthcare workers who dedicate their lives to healing and caring for others. With your fervent love for the sick and the suffering, we ask that you embrace them with your divine grace, strength, and wisdom. May they find solace in their noble profession and remain steadfast in their commitment to serve. We implore you, Saint Catherine, to intercede on their behalf, that they may be shielded from harm and continue to be instruments of hope and healing in these challenging times.

Amen.





Objectives

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- Introduction to NACN-USA
- Recognize the relevant call for NACN-USA Catholic nurses
- Summarize the NACN-USA History
- Review NACN-USA Mission
- Summarize the NACN-USA Vision for the role of School-based Councils





Papal Call to Catholic Nurses

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- Pope Pius XI (1935) [it is] “the duty of every Catholic nurse to belong to Catholic associations of nurses and to promote them in every way possible” (excerpt from G. Cardinal Pizzardo’s 1937 letter to bishops).
- “... modern theories seek to penetrate the minds of Catholic nurses and to make them become unconsciously strong agents for the propagation of eugenics and neo-Malthusianism...” (Address of Pope Pius XI to the 3rd International Congress of Catholic Nurses, 1937; p. 25 Conference Report).



Papal Call to Catholic Nurses

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- Pope Pius XI (1938) to US Bishops “... local associations of Catholic nurses according to the needs of their respective diocese, which in due time, under the guidance of the Hierarchy, might be united to create a National Federation of Catholic Nurses.”
- His Holiness, Pope Pius XI expressed with great desire “that ways and means may be found to emphasize the necessity of bringing all Catholic nurses within the influence of Catholic Associations of Nurses.” He called for all nurses to be gathered under one National Association within the United States.



https://nacn-usa.org/wp-content/uploads/Cardinal-Pizzardo-Letter-Addendum_C.Hettman_4-8-1938-1.pdf



Roots and Inception

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- 1940's Local & Regional Councils formed across the nation in 112 Diocese with 22,000 members NCCN disbanded
- 1970's-1993 Local Councils continued to flourish in Fall River, MA; Albany, NY; Youngstown, OH and Chicago, IL
- 1993 NACN-USA formed in the Diocese of Joliet, Illinois
- 1994 NACN-USA voting member of CICIAMS
- 1996 Approved US Conference of Catholic Bishops for inclusion in the Official Catholic Directory under the Diocese of Joliet
- 1998 NACN-USA formed and incorporated in the Diocese of Joliet, Illinois as a 501(c)(3)





Founding Members

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Eula Sforza, RN, World War II Nurse
NACN-USA Founding Member
1st President of NACN-USA 1993-1996



Marylee Meehan, RN, MA

NACN-USA Founding Member 1993
2nd President, NACN-USA, 1996-1998
CICIAMS President, 2007-2012

President Emeritus CICIAMS (awarded
by The Holy See in 2017)

Member, Pontifical Council for the
Pastoral Assistance of Health Care
Workers appointed by Pope Benedict
XVI, 2011-2017



Connect with the Vatican

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- CICIAMS collaborates with the Vatican Dicastery for the Promotion of Integral Human Development.
- The 2023 Christmas Card to members from the Vatican Dicastery!



*Il Figlio di Dio è nato scartato per dirci
che ogni scartato è figlio di Dio.*

*The Son of God was born an outcast, in order
to tell us that every outcast is a child of God.*

*El Hijo de Dios nació descartado para decirnos
que toda persona descartada es un hijo de Dios.*

*Le Fils de Dieu est né rejeté pour nous dire que
toute personne rejetée est enfant de Dieu.*

*O Filho de Deus nasceu descartado para nos
dizer que todo o descartado é filho de Deus.*

*Der Sohn Gottes wurde völlig unbeachtet
geboren, um uns zu sagen, dass jeder
missachtete Mensch ein Kind Gottes ist.*

Franciscus, 24.XII.2020



Buon Natale!

Merry Christmas!

¡Felix Navidad!

Joyeux Noël!

Feliz Natal!

Fröhliche Weihnachten!



Celebrate Catholic Nursing

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NACN-USA 115th Anniversary (1909-2024)

National Association of Catholic Nurses, USA (NACN-USA) spans history through WWI, the Great Depression, WWII, Socio-Cultural/Economic Challenges, & Covid-19.



CICIAMS 90th Anniversary (1933-2023)

International Catholic Committee of Nurses & Medico-Social Assistants, Vatican City
NACN-USA members are the USA members of CICIAMS founded in Lourdes, France
Comite International Catholique des Infirmieres et Assistantes Medico-Sociales (CICIAMS).



Mission Statement

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The National Association of Catholic Nurses, USA 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
- 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.



Motto and Patroness

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Motto: Unity in Charity

Patroness: Our Lady of the Immaculate Conception



Tag Line: where NURSING, MINISTRY and CATHOLIC MISSION meet



Nursing



Ministry



Catholic Mission



Logo

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1. SHAPE: Circle, A Group Bound by a Common Tie
2. CROSS: Suffering Death & Resurrection
3. HEART: Love for God & Patients
4. HOLY SPIRIT: “Come Holy Spirit, Fill the hearts of Thy faithful and enkindle in them the fire of your love”
5. NURSES LAMP AND LIGHT: Nursing and being one little light
6. GOLD CROWN: Christ the King and in Bible the Revelation 16:14-15, “...A crown of solid gold upon His head and a sharp sickle in his hand ...the time has come for you to reap, the harvest is ripe on the earth.” For us it is time to reap, the harvest of new members and our student nurses.





Membership Benefits

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- Faith fortification & faith formation
- Fellowship with Catholic nurses
- Local, regional, national, & global networking
- Intercollegiate education & activities
- Leadership opportunities with high impact
- Student scholarships (Eula Sforza Scholarship)
- Life long Catholic nursing (student to retiree)
- Daily Masses offered for NACN-USA members and their families

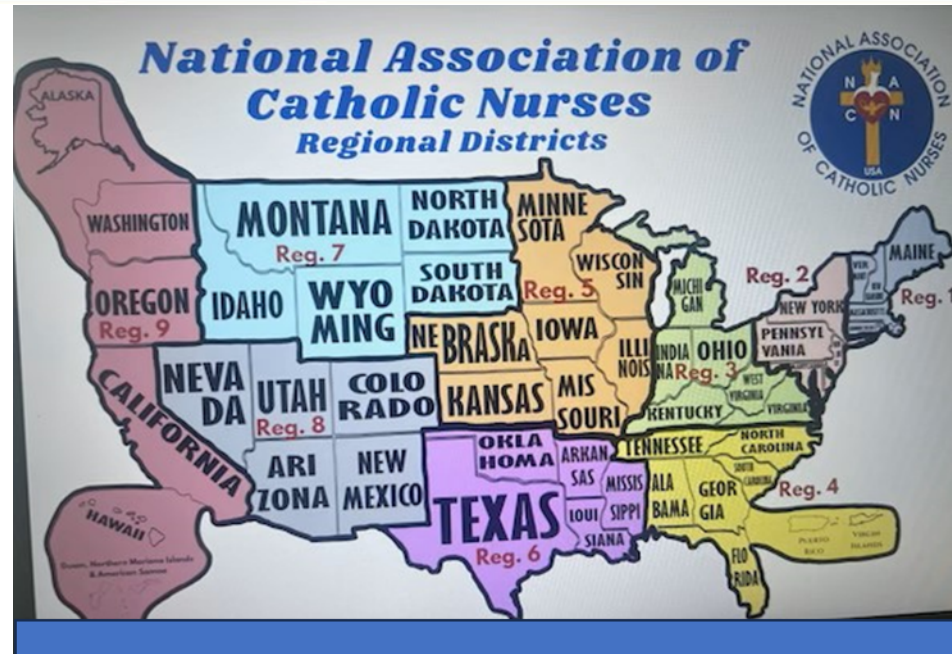


World Congress Film | NACN-USA -CICIAMS



NACN-USA Regions

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NACN-USA Elected Board

President, President-elect, Treasurer, Recording Secretary, Corresponding Secretary,
9 Regional Directors /All 50 States & US Territories: Virgin Islands, Puerto Rico, Guam, Northern Mariana Islands, & American Samoa

Region 1 (CT, MA, ME, RI, VT)

Region 2 (DE, MD, NJ, NY, PA, Wash DC)

Region 3 (IN, KY, MI, OH, VA, WV)

Region 4 (AL, GA, NC, SC, TN, VI, PR)

Region 5 (IA, IL, KS, MN, MO, NE, WI)

Region 6 (AR, LA, MS, OK, TX)

Region 7 (ID, MT, ND, SD, WY)

Region 8 (AZ, NV, UT, NM)

Region 9 (AK,CA, HI, OR, WA, AS, GU, MP)



NACN-USA Vision

where NURSING, MINISTRY, and CATHOLIC MISSION meet
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On the Horizon....

- State Representatives
- School-Based Councils
- Agency-Based Councils
- Parish-based Councils continue





School-based Councils

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A School-based Councils:

- Are local chapters within NACN-USA identified by a school of nursing.
- Follow the processes of the School of Nursing’s club formation in consultation with the NACN-USA Regional Director and the NACN- USA President.
- Function as legally separate, distinct, and independent entities.
- Must comply with the NACN-USA Mission Statement and adhere to the guidelines of the NACN-USA Bylaws.
- **Are also to be members of NACN-USA.**





Where Are **YOU** Being Called to Serve?

where NURSING, MINISTRY, and CATHOLIC MISSION meet
“Unity in Charity”

Join a Committee!

- Awards & Scholarships
- Bylaws
- Communications
- Education, Practice, & Research

- Ethics
- Finance
- Membership & Elections

We look forward to working with you!





Connect with Us

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Questions???

Website: <http://www.nacn-usa.org>

Email: CatholicNurses@nacn-usa.org



Become a member today!





Closing Prayer

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St. Michael the Archangel,
defend us in battle.

Be our defense against the wickedness and snares of the devil.

May God rebuke him, we humbly pray,
and do thou,

O Prince of the heavenly hosts,
by the power of God,
thrust into hell Satan,
and all the evil spirits,
who prowl about the world
seeking the ruin of souls.
Amen.





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THANK YOU!