

# Prayer of Gratitude and Blessing for National Catholic Health Care Week

January 10, 2024

RE: National Catholic Health Care Week (Feb. 4 – 10, 2024)

Dear Pastor,

Warm greetings.



National Catholic Health Care Week (NCHCW) takes place on February 4 -10, 2024. NCHCW awakens the gospel by helping us remember the healing ministry of Christ lived through family members who support elderly, sick and less-able people, medical professionals, counsellors, spiritual care practitioners, and all those who respond to the vulnerable with their many faces.

To highlight the importance of this week the diocese of Saskatoon will be holding the Compassionate Healers Mass at 9am on February 11 at the Cathedral of the Holy Family in Saskatoon (this is also World Day of the Sick). You are also invited to recognize NCHCW at the Sunday Masses of Feb. 11 in your parish.

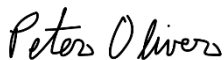
To aid in this please find included with this message:

- A special prayer of gratitude and blessing.
- Prayers of the faithful.
- A bulletin announcement for your parish.
- In a separate attachment, a poster for NCHCW

I hope you will welcome this opportunity to strengthen the faith of all those who are committed to the healing ministry of Christ.

Thank you for considering this invitation,

Peter Oliver



Executive Director - CHAS

peter@chassk.ca

(306) 955-2427

Attached Below:

Ritual of Gratitude and Blessing

Prayers of the Faithful

Bulletin Announcement

**Catholic Health Association of Saskatchewan**

# Prayer of Gratitude and Blessing for National Catholic Health Care Week

## Words of invitation

In recognition of *National Catholic Health Care Week* we invite everyone to stand for a brief moment of silence and a blessing.

We make this gesture in recognition of the healing ministry of Jesus Christ which is lived through doctors, nurses and care aids and in those who counsel people struggling with mental health or addictions, provide supports in our care facilities such as administration, building maintenance and food services. We also recognize those who care for the sick and vulnerable in their homes, in schools, prisons and places of work.

Holding these people in our hearts we pause and offer a grateful moment of silence.

Moment of silence (30 seconds)

## Blessing

Good and gracious God,  
in this National Catholic Health Care Week  
we bring before you all in our land  
who serve in the healing ministry of Jesus Christ.

In particular, we ask your blessing for the healers among us.  
May their strength and devotion be renewed  
for the unique work of compassion to which they are called.  
Renew in them wisdom and skill; sympathy and patience; strength and courage.  
In the depth and breadth of that faith keep them strong in your service.

Let your light shine through our days and in our deeds,  
that in all our services your healing will may prevail,  
to the glory and praise of your holy and blessed name.  
Amen.

# Prayer of Gratitude and Blessing for National Catholic Health Care Week

## Prayers of the Faithful:

Lector - The response is: *Lord, hear our prayer.*

For the sick and hospitalized: may they feel the healing power of Christ and find comfort and hope in His constant presence.

We pray to the Lord: *Lord, hear our prayer.*

For healthcare workers in our hospitals, long term care facilities and community: may they be a light to others and a testament to Christ's compassion as they live their faith and care for their patients.

We pray to the Lord: *Lord, hear our prayer.*

For those supporting family members: may they find in themselves the generous hands of Christ and the strength to offer healing and hope, especially when more is asked than they feel able to give.

We pray to the Lord: *Lord, hear our prayer.*

For those who offer help and support to people struggling with addictions, those in prison and individuals with mental health concerns: may they respond with compassion and creativity as they share healing words and presence.

We pray to the Lord: *Lord, hear our prayer.*

For those who work with victims of crime and domestic abuse: help them cherish the dignity of the people they work with and help them inspire confidence and peace in those who seek their aid.

We pray to the Lord: *Lord, hear our prayer.*

For administrators and government leaders: may they work to enact legislation and policies that elevates human dignity, recognizes the common good and reverences faith in God.

We pray to the Lord: *Lord, hear our prayer.*

## **Prayer of Gratitude and Blessing for National Catholic Health Care Week**

### **Bulletin Announcement**

Celebrating Catholic Health Care: Holding all those who are hurting in our hearts – and grateful for the many faithful Catholics who serve in formal and informal expressions of Catholic health care throughout our communities – the Catholic Health Association of Saskatchewan (CHAS) encourages the faithful to celebrate our commitment to Catholic health care during National Catholic Health Care Week Feb. 11 to 18. An annual Compassionate Healers Mass will be celebrated that week in the Roman Catholic Diocese of Saskatoon on the World Day of the Sick, Sunday, Feb. 11, 2024, with Bishop Mark Hagemoen presiding at the 9 a.m. celebration at the Cathedral of the Holy Family, 123 Nelson Road, Saskatoon. All are welcome.