

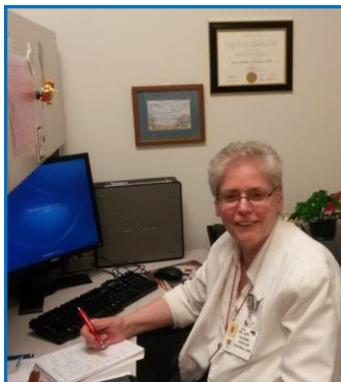
THE MINISTRY OF CHAPLAINCY



Care-giving
carries within it an opportunity
for inner healing, liberation and transformation
for the one being cared for and for the one who cares.

The National Association of Catholic, Chaplains (NACC) explains what a chaplain does. “The core of the chaplain’s ministry is being a compassionate, pastoral presence to those who are suffering and to those who serve as caregivers, such as family and staff ... A chaplain assesses the spiritual care a patient might need, provides spiritual care programs and service, facilitates ethical decision-making, is part of interdisciplinary care teams, and works with other leaders to cultivate a culture of spirituality within the organization which he or she serves.”

Three of our sisters in the North American Province are Chaplains in different Hospitals and a Nursing Home.



Sister Judith Filorimo is Board Certified and employed at Holy Redeemer Health System and work in the Hospital’s Unit and St. Joseph Manor Nursing Home, Meadowbrook, PA, USA. Sister Judith has been involved in this ministry for the past 24 years which she says, “has been a blessing for me. Journeying with the sick and dying, and their families and staff has been a sacred experience.”



Sister Ann Marie Marabella is Board Certified and employed at Holy Spirit Hospital, Camp Hill, PA, USA. She works in the Heart Center, Womens' Center and in Palliative Care. She developed a Bereavement Series for which she is a presenter. Currently Sr. Ann Marie is working with the nursing staff to bring a spirituality component in their ministry. She states, "To be able to journey with patients and families at life changing times is awesome. To be able to see God's hand in the lives of my patients and to help bring God to those who are distant is amazing."



Sister Magdalena Vogt is employed by the Roman Catholic Diocese of London, Ontario, Canada, as Chaplain at Victoria Hospital which is part of the London Health Science Centre. She is involved wherever the Catholic patients are. This includes preemies, new born babies and moms, sick children and adults, including mental health patients (on the average there are about 120 - 140 Catholic patients per day). These past seven years she has frequently stood in awe working with a variety of people in different and difficult situations.

Sister Magdalena has summed up what all of our Chaplains feel in regards to their ministry. "We are always aware that we do not walk alone. We are only a channel of Christ the Divine Healer's love and care for each patient. This enables us to love and tend to those to whom we are privileged to minister, and strengthens us on those days when our patients' suffering can become overwhelming."

