



## DOMINICAN HEALTHCARE MINISTRY

2024 ANNUAL NEWSLETTER

The friars and lay volunteers of Dominican Healthcare Ministry wish you a blessed Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes and World Day of the Sick. We are restarting an annual newsletter to mark the Feast of Lourdes each February, and are delighted to share with you the many ways in which our ministry has grown over the past year in support of the healthcare community, developing new dimensions in addition to our direct pastoral and sacramental care of the sick at hospitals and healthcare institutions around Manhattan's East Side.

### **Masses and Celebrations at the Church of St. Catherine of Siena**

In 2023 we marked the 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of St. Catherine's, celebrated by a Mass with Cardinal Dolan.

We are blessed to host the annual Gianna Mass for couples suffering infertility or miscarriage, partnering with the Gianna Center and Archdiocese of New York Office of Family Life. Couples have the opportunity after Mass to meet with physicians and practitioners who specialize in assisting couples with infertility.

With the Catholic Medical Association New York Metropolitan Guild, we celebrate the Mass for Healthcare Workers on the Feast of St. Luke.

Each year we celebrate the patronage of the Blessed Virgin on Our Lady of Lourdes, as well as hosting the Friends of St. Margaret Mass for the physically disabled, Holy Hours for the Exultation of the Cross and Our Lady of Sorrows, and other special liturgies and celebrations through the year.

### **Support for Patients and Staff**

We provide daily pastoral care visits and 24/7 availability at 3 healthcare institutions around St. Catherine's, and supplemental support for urgent needs at 6 hospitals on the East Side.

The Catholic Medical Association New York Metropolitan Guild meets monthly, supported by our friars, providing a community of spiritual encouragement for all healthcare workers.

God and Cancer: Support and Prayer Group meets biweekly, offering a Catholic community for those diagnosed with cancer.

At our Healthcare Holy Hours each Thursday we pray for and with the sick and those who care for them. Sermons posted online weekly.



*The Saint Gianna Mass*

Dominican Healthcare Ministry is devoted to promoting the dignity of the human person and the healing ministry of Jesus Christ through pastoral care, education, ethical consultation, and prayer. As a ministry of the Dominican Province of Saint Joseph collaborating with the Archdiocese of New York, we are at the service of the healthcare community in New York City and beyond.

## Life is Changed, Not Ended

In 2023 we published *Life is Changed, Not Ended*, a short pamphlet intended to help Catholics consider their eternal end and make adequate preparations for their own death, informed by our experience as chaplains. Electronic copies can be downloaded at [healthcareministry.org](http://healthcareministry.org), and hard copies may be requested by emailing [director@healthcareministry.org](mailto:director@healthcareministry.org).



## Publishing and Conferences

Fr. Hyacinth Grubb published *The Pastoral and Spiritual Responsibilities of Catholic Health Care: A Commentary on the Revised Part Two of the Ethical and Religious Directives*. Fr. Columba Thomas published *Healing, Wholeness, and the Professional-Patient Relationship: A Commentary on Proposed Revisions to Part Three of the Ethical and Religious Directives*, both in *The National Catholic Bioethics Quarterly*, 23(2).

Fr. Hyacinth Grubb presented *Strengthening Witness in Catholic Health Care through Spiritual Care* at the National Catholic Bioethics Center’s 29<sup>th</sup> Workshop for Bishops.

## Supporting Providence College School of Nursing and Health Sciences

Providence College, located in Rhode Island and also a ministry of the Dominican Order, opened a new School of Nursing and Health Sciences in 2023. Friars from our Healthcare Ministry have begun to help provide spiritual formation for future nurses by guest teaching, assisting extra-curricular formation, and providing advisory services. We are excited to help form the next generation of nurses to be the compassion presence of Christ caring for the sick.

## Healthcare Ministry Internship Program

In the summer of 2023 we fully resumed our seminarian internship program with two student brothers from the Dominican House of Studies in Washington DC and two student brothers from the Dominican School of Philosophy and Theology in Berkley CA. Class discussions were made available over zoom to student brothers through the Province of St. Joseph.

### DHM by the Numbers in 2023

- 5 Dominican Priests
- 20 Lay Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion
- Daily service and 24/7 availability at 3 healthcare institutions around St. Catherine’s
- Supplemental priest coverage for urgent sacramental needs at 6 additional hospitals on the East Side
- Over 10,000 priestly pastoral visits and 12,000 lay visits to patients, families, and staff

## Support Dominican Healthcare Ministry

Please pray for the sick, the dying, their families, and the medical staff who care for them. We ask for your prayers, that our ministry may be able to bring them the healing presence of Christ. You are welcome to join all of our liturgies and Masses at St. Catherine’s Church.

To support our practical needs, mail a check to Dominican Healthcare Ministry at 411 E 68<sup>th</sup> St, New York, NY 10065, or visit [healthcareministry.org/give](http://healthcareministry.org/give)

Thank you for all of your prayers and support.