



DOMINICAN HEALTHCARE MINISTRY

2025 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, the occasion of our annual newsletter. We are delighted to share with you the many ways in which our ministry continues to grow in support of the healthcare community, by direct pastoral and sacramental care of the sick, by our Masses and services at St. Catherine of Siena Church, and by our work in medical ethics and chaplaincy education.

At the Church of St. Catherine of Siena

In September the priests of the DHM brought back a midday Mass, 11:45am Monday to Friday. Mass intentions are reserved for medical professionals and healthcare workers, to help pray for their patients and their personal needs. Submit intentions by calling our office at 212-988-8303.

Throughout the year we offer Masses and services at St Catherine's for the healthcare community:

- Our Lady of Lourdes Healing Mass
- The Gianna Mass for Couples suffering Infertility and Miscarriage
- St. Margaret of Castello Mass for the Disabled
- Blessing of Hands for National Nurses Week
- Medical Meet and Greet for arriving Medical Students, Residents, and Interns
- St. Luke White Mass for Healthcare Workers
- November Memorial Mass for Deceased Patients
- *Subscribe to our monthly email updates at healthcareministry.org for more.*

Regular Support for Patients and Staff

We provide daily pastoral care visits and 24/7 availability at Hospital for Special Surgery and Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center, and provide New York Presbyterian-Weill Cornell Medical Center with emergency and overnight Catholic pastoral care.

The Catholic Medical Association New York Metropolitan Guild meets at St. Catherine's monthly, supported by our friars.

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

DHM friars participate in and raise awareness about the New York Biomedical Roundtable, a group of healthcare workers seeking to prevent the legalization of physician-assisted suicide.



*Veneration of the Major Relics of St. Thomas Aquinas
with the Dominican Healthcare Ministry, December 2025
Photo by Valeria Moreno*

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.

Notable Publications by DHM Friars

Thomas C, Alici Y, Breitbart W, Bruera E, Blackler E, Sulmasy D. "Drugs, Delirium, and Ethics at the End of Life." *Journal of the American Geriatric Society*. 2024 Jul;72(7)

Thomas, C. "Christ the Physician: A Theological Framework for Healing in Catholic Health Care." *Linacre Quarterly*. 2023 Aug;91(3)



Panel Presentation on Applications of the Art of Dying in Catholic Healthcare at the Catholic Medical Association 93rd Annual Education Conference

Conferences and Teaching

Fr. Columba Thomas, Fr. Hyacinth Grubb, and Fr. Mannes Matous gave a panel presentation at the Catholic Medical Association Annual Conference. Fr. Columba spoke at the Memorial Sloan Kettering World Hospice and Palliative Care Day Conference, and is a contributor to the Disability Ethics Working Group at the Pontifical Academy for Life 2025 Assembly.

DHM friars gave lectures on the Art of Dying and bioethics topics at parishes in New York and beyond, led retreats for the Curatio Apostolate and Catholic Medical Association local guilds, and more.

Fr. Hyacinth led the Diocese of Baker Clergy Study Day on Hospital Pastoral Care, and guest taught at the Pontifical Faculty of the Immaculate Conception on hospital confessions. The DHM continues to expand the Seminarian Summer Internship Program, and in 2025 will offer remote participation for seminarians at hospitals outside of New York City.

DHM by the Numbers in 2024

5 Dominican Priests

25 Lay Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion

Daily service and 24/7 availability at 3 healthcare institutions around St. Catherine's Church

During 2024, supplemental priest coverage for urgent sacramental needs at 6 additional hospitals on the East Side

Over 9,000 priestly pastoral visits and 13,000 lay visits to patients, families, and staff

Volunteers at the DHM

Our ministry to the sick benefits greatly from the generous service of our volunteers, who bring Holy Communion to patients, serve as Lectors at Mass, assist in our research work and administration, and help in innumerable other ways.

Thank you to all our volunteers!

Coming Soon!

Stay tuned for DHM projects in 2025, including:

- Chaplaincy and Spiritual Care Spring Break Program for students at Providence College School of Nursing and Health Science
- Bioethics Colloquium: *Towards a Thomistic Understanding of Death in a Clinical Setting*
- Educational Programs for Catholic Healthcare Chaplaincy
- Publications on Clinical Pastoral Education, Vitalism and Physician Assisted Suicide, the Principle of Double Effect, and more...

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 bring them the healing presence of Christ. You are welcome to join all of our services and Masses at St. Catherine's Church.

To support our practical needs, mail a check to Dominican Healthcare Ministry at 411 E 68th St, New York, NY 10065, or visit healthcareministry.org/give

Thank you for all of your prayers and support.