

“ What people have said

“Parish/Faith Community Nursing is a Parishioner’s bridge to health related resources in the community, health information and spiritual support.”

Cathy Stock – Faith Based Outreach Coordinator,
Oakwood Healthcare System

“The Parish Nurse not only focuses on the health, safety and well being of the faith community but also on their spiritual needs.”

Chris Cosnowski – Parish Nurse, St. Mary, Milford,
in partnership with St. Joseph Mercy Oakland Health System

“My role as a Parish Nurse in my parish community is to create an atmosphere of health and healing. My role is to recognize every person as sacred and that their spiritual immersion is central to my practice.”

Maureen Duncan – Parish Nurse, St. Mary, St Clair,
in partnership with St. John Providence Health System

“Parish nurses offer our faith community more than just information about medical issues and an occasional health event, their ministry provides an invaluable resource to every group and ministry in our parish. The real benefit of their presence among us will only be realized when we have been able to harness the limitless resource of their willingness to serve.”

Fr. Joe Mallia – Pastor, St. Francis Cabrini, Allen Park
(Partnered with Oakwood Healthcare System) ”

Contact information

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Go online

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HEALING: Body and Soul

What is a Parish Nurse / Faith Community Nurse

A Parish Nurse (PN) / Faith Community Nurse (FCN) is an actively licensed professional registered nurse. The Parish Nurse/Faith Community Nurse combines her/his nursing practice with pastoral ministry to empower members in the faith community to become active partners in their health. Parish Nursing/ Faith Community Nursing is recognized by the American Nurses Association.

- Assists with healing services
- Parish / Vicariate Mass of the Anointing
- Ministry to the homebound
- Card Ministry
- Hospital / Home Visits

PN/FCN Resource Guide



Archdiocese
of Detroit

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“I came that they may have life and have it to the full.”

John 10:10

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An Introduction

The Parish Nurse/Faith Community Nurse focuses on health promotion and disease prevention in her/his role. Some of the activities of PN's/FCN's include health education, making referrals to community agencies, and they can provide pastoral visitation to homebound and hospitalized parishioners.

Role of Parish Nurse / Faith Community Nurse

- I. Serves the faith community in their efforts to empower members of the congregation to live fully abundant and healthy lives;
- II. Collaborates, coordinates, and facilitates with the pastoral staff to enhance the health of the faith community;
- III. Example activities:
 - a. Health Promotion – coordinates blood drives; conducts health educational programs such as parenting programs, babysitting programs; provides articles on health in bulletins, provides classes on health topics, First Aid, Advanced Directives, CPR/AED, etc.; facilitates various types of exercise classes, stress management seminars, etc.
 - b. Disease Prevention - such as blood pressure screenings. Makes referrals to community agencies for health related issues.
 - c. Advocates - for individuals and families for health services within the faith community and beyond.

Qualifications

- Current nursing license to practice;
- Three to five years experience as a Registered Nurse;
- A member of a faith community;
- Completion of Parish Nurse Preparation Course developed by International Parish Nurse Resource Center within 2 years of beginning practice.

Hope and healing

Available Resources

- International Parish Nurse Resource Center (IPRC) website is <http://www.parishnurses.org>.
- Partial Scholarships for Parish Nurse Preparation Course. For criteria contact the Archdiocese of Detroit.
- Many Health Care Systems provide the networking and support for parish nurses/faith community nurses.
- Members are available for conversation about Parish Nursing/Faith Community Nursing and can provide support, education and direction on the role and expertise required of a parish nurse/faith community nurse.
- Health Ministries Association (HMA), www.hmassoc.org
- Archdiocese of Detroit Parish Nurse Advisory Committee meets regularly and facilitates a yearly retreat. Members are available for conversation about Parish Nursing/Faith Community Nursing and can provide support, education and direction on the role and expertise required of a parish nurse/faith community nurse.

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"I am truly grateful for the work of the parish nurse program at Holy Family in Memphis. A few years back I was having chest pains and was avoiding seeing the doctor. My excuse was that I was too busy with parish work and didn't have time to make an appointment. My parish nurses found out about this, and within days they found me a doctor, made me an appointment, and eventually had a heart catheterization procedure. Today I am eating healthier, feeling better and my heart is just fine, thanks to the caring people who make up our parish nurse program."

Fr. Joseph Horn - Pastor of Holy Family Parish, Memphis Michigan
(Partnered with St. John Providence Health System)

