

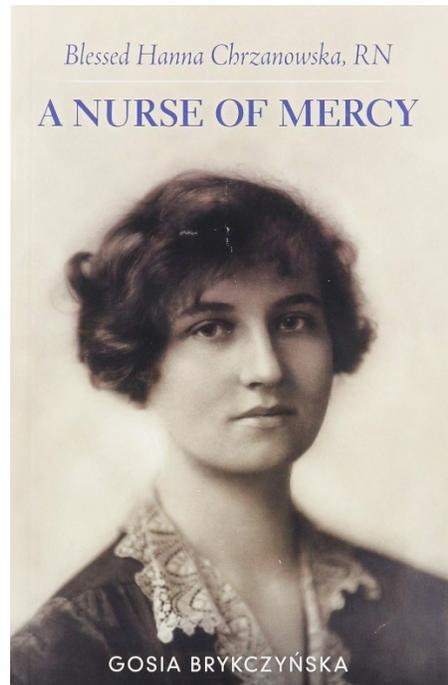
NACN-Canada Newsletter Issue 10, February 9, 2022

World Day of the Sick February 11, 2022

Dear members and friends of NACN-Canada,

St. John Paul II, patron saint of NACN-Canada, launched the World Day of the Sick thirty years ago on the feast of Our Lady of Lourdes. Its goal is to encourage increased devotion and service to the sick and their families. In [his message this year](#), Pope Francis elaborates on the theme, “Be merciful, even as your Father is merciful, standing beside those who suffer...” This resonates with members of NACN-Canada.

The Holy Father emphasizes the need to improve access to health care, including pastoral care. The pandemic has delayed access to non-emergency care so that resources could be redirected to COVID care. It has highlighted gaps in Canada’s care of the elderly. Well before the pandemic, people in remote, rural and urban Canadian settings have needed access to the basic social determinants of health. In addition, our First Nations peoples have long needed access to culturally safe health care, especially in the context of the intergenerational effects of abuse in residential schools.



Pope Francis discusses the need for Christian disciples to provide excellent care and to be close to the sick. NACN-Canada has posted on its website a moving first-person account for its members about the importance of excellent care, including pastoral care for those facing the prospect of imminent death. Nurses who are close to patients are ideally placed to help them find meaning in suffering. This is important especially in community settings, where pastoral care resources are not always available.

Medically induced death is increasingly promoted and normalized in Canada, placing our ill, vulnerable, and disabled patients at increased risk in hospitals and their own homes. NACN-Canada recognizes the responsibility of all health care professionals to support a culture of life. We have both the right and the moral duty to never participate in any activity that involves deliberately causing death. We will continue to support our members in this sacred task of serving the sick and vulnerable, and to promote access to the authentic palliative care and pain management that excludes medically induced death. We will advocate for resources to support people who experience loneliness, anxiety, depression, and other issues that might lead them to consider suicide. We will continue to educate our members on loving, professional ways of

responding to requests for medically induced death that promote health, defending their right to refuse to participate in killing their patients. NACN-Canada has a role in teaching civic leaders, the media, and the public about why the culture of death is evil, and why it should not be chosen. Our role involves building up alternatives that encourage people to choose what is morally right.

Finally, NACN-Canada members have an affinity with this year's theme of excellent care and merciful love because we have established a practice of praying the Chaplet of Divine Mercy together on First Fridays at 3 p.m. In addition, we have started to learn about [Blessed Hanna Chrzanowska](#) and her examination of conscience for nurses. We intend to explore this document further as we begin a collaboration with the [St. Monica Institute](#). I echo Pope Francis' prayer, through the intercession of Mary, for the sick, their families, and the health care professionals who care for them.



Helen McGee, RN MN
President, NACN-Canada

For further information on Blessed Hanna Chrzanowska:

<https://www.thedivinemercy.org/articles/blessed-hanna-chrzanowska-nurse-mercy>

MRSA: A Personal Case Study Go to catholicnurses.ca All Members page to view

Postscript: This presentation was recorded at an AORN Conference in Atlanta, Ga in March of 2019. In December of 2020 the sinus tract that had remained open and weeping since July of 2018 dramatically changed. What had been a benign and recessed wound became bulbous and painful. After 4,000 plus sterile 4x4's, this precipitated a revision to the revision. The pre-operative appointment with the Surgeon included a discussion about the prosthetic stem. The X-Ray showed no change over the last year and the stem appeared solid and stable. To remove the stem would, in all probability, have required breaking the femur. When I asked what the potential to be MRSA "free" was if we did a total revision including the stem, his response was 25%. So, on February 5th of 2021 a partial revision was done. The Surgeon replaced the Ball and the Cup Liner, excised the sinus tract, did a heavy I&D and placed antibiotic beads. After 4 days of Hospitalization I was released on a PIC line Rx (Vancomycin) for eight weeks with home nursing and PT. The only medication I'm currently on is Oral Antibiotic (DoxyCycline) and Tylenol as needed. I have resumed full activity including weight training 5-6 times per week and golfing when the weather of central Ohio permits.

I appreciate any and all feedback. My personal email is below:

wgschmelzer@gmail.com

God Bless

Kelly Block's Bill C-230 introduced in Parliament on Feb. 4, 2022

<https://www.parl.ca/DocumentViewer/en/44-1/bill/C-230/first-reading>

February 9, 2022

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P.O. Box 19525, 55 Bloor St. West, Toronto ON M4W 3T9
nancanada.boardcontact@gmail.com

The Honourable Kelly Block, P.C., M.P.
House of Commons, Ottawa ON K1A 0A6
Kelly.block@parl.gc.ca

Dear Ms. Block,

Thank you for sponsoring Bill C-230, An Act to amend the Criminal Code (intimidation of health care professionals), also known as the Protection of Freedom of Conscience Act.

You have the full support of our organization, which launched in 2018. The group formed in response to the Carter decision, when it became clear that our ill, vulnerable patients were increasingly at risk as medically induced death was promoted and normalized in Canada. We are affiliated with an international group of Catholic nurses known as CICIAMS.

We will encourage our members to write to you individually and to sign any petition that you recommend on this topic. Please let us know any other ways that we might help you as Bill C-230 progresses in the legislative process.

Thank you for your active involvement in this important issue.



Helen McGee, RN MN
President, National Association of Catholic Nurses – Canada

NACN-Canada board elections 2022: important dates

NACN-Canada welcomes your interest in serving on our Board of Directors. This year is an election year for the Corresponding Secretary position, a two-year commitment. A description of the position can be found here: <https://catholicnurses.ca/statutes/>.



If you are looking for a way to become more involved in the association, and think you would be a great corresponding secretary, please reach out to us.

Your nomination paper should include a short bio, including why you would like to be on the board, your background, work status, and experience, and how you can contribute to NACN-Canada. Be sure your membership with us is up to date. These are the important dates:

1. Nomination papers for the position of Corresponding Secretary should be received no later than February 15th, 2022
2. Voting papers will be made available to all members by February 18th, 2022.
3. Voting papers must be returned by 2400 on March 18th, 2022.
4. A simple majority of votes for a candidate shall constitute an election for that position.
5. The President is informed of election results by March 30th, 2022.

Normally, the President-Elect would transition into the role of President this year. However, the President-Elect position is vacant at this time, and the current President will continue in the role for another two years.

If you are interested in getting your feet wet by serving on our board as a Member-at-Large, we welcome your interest! Please email us at nacncanada.boardcontact@gmail.com