



## National Catholic Health Care Week

**Sunday, February 4 to Saturday, February 10, 2024.**

**This year, National Catholic Health Care Week reflects on our calling as a Catholic health community to be vibrant signs of hope in our world.**

**Through stories, reflections and prayer, the Week encourages us all to explore how we fostering hope and healing in ourselves, our communities and our society: to make life-giving connections, welcome each other in community, foster healing and wellness—body, mind and soul—and find purpose and meaning in our calling and our circumstances.**

### **Focus: Signs of Hope**

*I invite everyone to renewed hope, for hope speaks to us of something deeply rooted in every human heart... Hope speaks to us of a thirst, an aspiration, a longing for a life of fulfillment, a desire to achieve great things, things that fill our heart and lift our spirit to lofty realities like truth, goodness and beauty, justice and love. Pope Francis, Fratelli Tutti (55).*

National Catholic Health Care Week seeks to build understanding and connection with our mission and contribution as a Catholic health community working with others to build a just and caring society where all are seen and heard.

This year, it falls on the week leading into The World Day of the Sick, February 11, a Catholic day of observance established by Pope John Paul II to encourage prayers and reflections for those who are ill and for those who care for them.

This year's theme, "Signs of Hope," speaks to the courageous gift of Catholic health carrying on Jesus' healing ministry as a sign of hope in the world and offers words of blessing and hope to each person in their journey to care for themselves or others. It acknowledges and responds to the challenges faced in our communities as we continue our journey of recovery as a society and as Catholic health from the effects of the global pandemic.

We work with many partners—in our Catholic community, our health system and beyond—to contribute to and help shape an ever-evolving health system, drawing on our Catholic values, and a legacy of innovation and ethical reflection. This collaborative work in building bridges of hope, trust, care and service makes our health care system—and Canadian society—stronger.

During National Catholic Health Care Week, we invite all to reflect on and share the story of the courageous gift of our Catholic health mission.

### **The Courageous Gift of Catholic Health Care**

As Catholic health organizations across Canada, we are united in a 400-year healing mission and are inspired by a calling to care for all with compassion and humanity—body, mind and spirit. This week is an invitation to learn more about the role, value and impact of Catholic health care in Canada and to be vocal, informed supporters of Catholic health care and the healing ministry of Jesus in Canada. [The Courageous Gift](#) expresses the heart of our work, rooted in the Gospel and the legacy of our founding congregations.