



ASSOCIATION CATHOLIQUES
CANADIENNE DE LA SANTÉ

CATHOLIC HEALTH
ASSOCIATION OF CANADA

NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May 17, 1999

Rev. Mark Miller Receives Canada's Highest Distinction in Catholic Health Care

Saskatoon - The 1999 *Performance Citation Award* - Canada's highest distinction in Catholic health care - has gone to Father Mark Miller, C. Ss.R. in recognition of his outstanding commitment to the values of the Catholic health care ministry. Through his leadership, dedication and wisdom, Father Miller has made a distinguished contribution to health care in a Christian context. His readiness and capacity to act in the public interest and to promote high ethical standards exemplifies the mission and values of the Catholic Health Association of Canada (CHAC).

Father Miller, a Redemptorist from Edmonton, Alberta, serves as a bioethicist and a member of the Ethics Committee for St. Paul's Hospital in Saskatoon, is director of the Redemptorist Bioethics Consultancy in Edmonton, and works as an ethics consultant for the Catholic Health Association of Saskatchewan (CHAS). He also writes regularly for the *Prairie Messenger*. He has been involved in the preparation of health information protection legislation for Saskatchewan and played an important role in the development of legislation in the province concerning advance health care directives. His ability to present complex ethical issues in an understandable and challenging way, to people not ordinarily versed in such subjects, has made him a much sought after lecturer.

"Those who nominated Father Miller attested to his professional achievements in ethics; noting his enthusiasm, energy, dedication and professionalism. At the same time, they described Father Miller as a person who possesses a keen interest in all aspects of human life, and demonstrates a deep sense of compassion," said Gerald Herkel, CHAC chairperson, during the award ceremony.

The ceremony took place in Saskatoon as part of the Association's annual convention. The *Performance Citation Award* is given each year by the CHAC to individuals or groups who exemplify leadership in an activity, program or project worthy of national recognition for its strengthening of the Christian community in an extraordinary way.

"Father Miller's energy and talent is born of an inner spirituality that is expressed in his concern for others, and which finds its fruition in his gift as an educator. With this award we pay tribute to his commitment to bridge the gap between theory and practice, never losing sight of the fact that the most complex ethical issues are really about dealing respectfully with the reality of people's lives when they are suffering," said Mr. Herkel.

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