



**Subcommittee on Certification for Ecclesial Ministry and Service  
Committee on Catholic Education**

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February 23, 2015

David A. Lichter, D. Min.  
Executive Director  
National Association of Catholic Chaplains  
4915 S. Howell Avenue, Suite 501  
Milwaukee, WI 53207

Dear David:

I am writing to congratulate you as Executive Director, your board of Directors and your members on this momentous occasion of the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of National Association of Catholic Chaplains (NACC).

As you know I had hoped to be there with you but circumstances would not allow it. Be assured, that as Chair of the USCCB Subcommittee on Certification for Ecclesial Ministry and Service, I have come to appreciate the great gift that you and your members are for the Catholic Church in the United States.

NACC has been a pioneer in the development of national standards of excellence for those who represent the Church in hospital settings by providing spiritual care for patients and staff as well as a community of support for your members. NACC was the first professional organization of pastoral workers to request for the development and approval of such standards of excellence and shared accountability for your profession. Your efforts and success at this inspired others in pastoral work to do the same.

It is no wonder then that this past September, the Subcommittee gratefully acknowledged how the materials submitted for re-approval of NACC's standards and procedures for certification were exceptionally well done so that once again, NACC was the first national professional organization to be re-approved for another seven years under our new guidelines.

It is my sincere hope that you and your members will continue to be blessed in your efforts to remain vital and healthy as the future unfolds. Be assured of my congratulations and prayers for you all as you continue to promote excellence in the profession of chaplaincy.

Sincerely,

Most Reverend John M. Quinn  
Bishop of Winona  
Chair of the Subcommittee for Certification  
Of Ecclesial Ministry and Service  
United States Conference of Catholic Bishops

cc: Mary Lou O'Gorman , Chair of the NACC Board of Directors