

Refer to NACC website <https://www.nacc.org/resources/coronavirus-resources/> New things are being posted daily, with many new resources that can be used in your changing ministry.

Refer to the CHA website <https://www.chausa.org/> for resources. New things are being posted daily. CHA website. – front page is a link to Corona Virus resources and Spiritual Care resources and a series of short podcasts.

Refer to the CHA Guidelines for Sacramental Celebrations in a Health Care Setting: [https://www.chausa.org/docs/default-source/pastoral-care/guidelines-for-sacramental-celebrations-in-health-care-setting\\_jan2021.pdf?sfvrsn=4](https://www.chausa.org/docs/default-source/pastoral-care/guidelines-for-sacramental-celebrations-in-health-care-setting_jan2021.pdf?sfvrsn=4)

Chaplaincy Innovative lab <https://chaplaincyinnovation.org/>

Prayers from USCCB: <http://usccb.org/about/communications/usccb-president-reflection-and-prayer-during-coronavirus.cfm>; [www.usccb.org](http://www.usccb.org)

<https://www.nacc.org/resources/spirituality-and-prayer-resources/world-day-of-the-sick/>

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### 02.16.22 – 3pm CT - Welcome to everyone

**Reflection:** We gather ourselves and quiet our hearts, our minds, we quite all the voices that are clamoring for our attention...

This afternoon our time is open for anything that you would like to share

In our more recent meetings, people have been overwhelmed by COVID cases and what you are called to do. Are things easing up, where are you with COVID?

It sound funny, it's about the same, but not as severe. My sister just came out of isolation. We are having the ratio but not the severity. Our sisters were in a wing that was shut down. I do go in with PPE. It's interesting that its not severe, but it is happening. The shortage of staff is still very apparent. Even those (students) they bring in does not help.

Good news for today – our last positive case cleared quarantine today. Numbers are falling, but staffing is still short.

We have less COVID, but our deaths are still up. Staffing shortage is an issue.

I am between CPE units, one of our directors was murdered. It indicates a level of stress. The staff is in crisis, it gives the chaplains a chance to shine. The virus is still here, and you never know when it will land on you. The severity is less.

Our COVID number are dropping in Connecticut. Everyone is happy for that.

The hospital where I minister, almost 80% Christian Chaplains and 1 Buddhist. We have the chapel on campus. We celebrate mass every day. The Buddhist causes interruption about the name of Jesus. I don't know what to do about the issues he brings up. Others have complained about this chaplain. He brought it up again. Another priest did counter him. I was quiet, but why should I feel guilty about naming God and Jesus.

I took Japanese tea ceremony, so I am aware of the Buddhist connection. What this person doesn't understand is that this is a ceremony of another faith. He needs to be approached to offer his version of faith expression. Show him that God has no barriers, it's a matter of language and understanding,

not theocracy. We all approach this in our own way. Open the door of understanding about the love of God. Invitation to contribute to the love and knowledge of God.

Today, he started the report by ringing a bell 3 times in his own meditative way. No one made any issue. But when a Christian prays, he is mad. Is this a personality issue? It's not about religion.

He needs a mediator in his issues. He has to respect each one in their expression. We do not know his history. Let us pray and you pray in your way. Let him know how others accept/respect his prayer as he should. He needs and intervention and counseling. Some need to explain to this man how there is a richness that is common. **The Second Coming of Christ** (<https://ocoy.org/second-coming-christ-paramhansa-yogananda/>).

Thank you for sharing your story and empathy for the internal restlessness. There is a great opportunity for learning on both sides. I have become close friends with the Buddhist monk (leader) in my city. I think the conversations and visits I've made to the temple have allowed us to have an understanding of our faith, so I used to bring students to the temple to learn more about Buddhism, also about other faith systems. There may be something personal going on, a bad experience. It is an opportunity to show compassion and show Christianity is also centered on compassion. Finding the commonality and having those conversations may help. It may help open his mind to what he finds uncomfortable. Find what is common and appreciated in the diversity.

I've been a student and now working as a chaplain, I just started to practicing what I've been learning. I'm graduating in May. Working through my CPE. I plan to come on these calls to learn more.

I would like to add to keep one of regions in prayer whose chaplain just died. He is missed as a chaplain and a person.

The Book of Joy (<https://www.spiritualityandpractice.com/book-reviews/view/28397/the-book-of-joy>), a collaboration between the Dalai Lama and Desmond Tutu might be a nice resource for Dominic. The book covers the union of Christian and Buddhist thinking.

It's been a long 2 years. Sometimes time is quick and other times it took a long time. I am amazed how adaptable we are. We reacted, then we acted. I've been observing what has been going on regionally. I'm in a small hospice. We are still receiving COVID patients. We are feeling spring, number are down, I want to begin to hope. Yet so many continue to suffer on many levels. It feels like we are out of the worst, but not trusting what tomorrow is going to bring. I'm reading **The Power of Now**, (<https://www.spiritualityandpractice.com/book-reviews/view/18630/the-power-of-now>) that's my spiritual practice. Part of me wants to be hopeful. How do I bring this to people. Can we shift to how are you dealing with hope? How do you bring it to your ministry?

I can share that 2 weeks ago I and coworkers were informed that they are closing my hospice office March 4<sup>th</sup>. Immediately there was flood of emotions/anger. Fast Forward to the hope. I remained prayerful, what does this mean? I always professed hope and encouragement. How do I do this in my own life. I ask for wisdom and guidance. I could give up and leave everything behind. But no, I need to keep striving. There is something better. I started to apply for jobs, an example was that I did get interviews. I did get another position. There are things going on, but I know that this isn't it. What do

I do, how do I encourage. Having miracles in my life so I can continue to have hope for others. I don't doubt God's blessings.

I am learning so much as I get older, I'm understanding more and more for the hospital, from my neighbors. It makes me understand that God has a plan for each of us.

What has it been like to keep supporting staff and keeping up their moral?

Some days are easier than others. There's something true about fake it till you make it. Even when I feel somewhat overwhelmed, I have to start with a smile on my face, encouraging songs/crazy songs. The staff doesn't know what I'm going through because I show energy not loss of control which in turn encourages the staff. The face I put on supports others.

Tim Janis music may be helpful (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dXlyMS61B68>)

Our founder would say, "Sisters make sure your faces do not look like dirty dishwasher"

*Closing: Oh God, we have gathered with hearts full of many concerns....*