

January 28, 2025

RE: Compassionate Healers' Mass



Dear Father,

Warm greetings.

The Compassionate Healers' Mass awakens the gospel by helping us remember the healing ministry of Christ lived through family members who support elderly, sick and less-able people and the service of medical professionals, counsellors, spiritual care practitioners, and all those who respond to the vulnerable with their many faces. This Mass is celebrated at the conclusion of [National Catholic Health Care Week \(NCHCW\)](#) which takes place from Sunday, Feb. 2 to Saturday, Feb. 8, 2025.

Below you will find a short ritual of blessing which brings attention to Catholic healthcare in relation to the [2025 Jubilee: Pilgrims of Hope](#). The prayers of the faithful also acknowledge a theme that is the focus NCHCW and one that is highlighted by the Jubilee year, namely, respect for creation.

The Roman Catholic Diocese of Saskatoon will be holding the Compassionate Healers' Mass at 9:00 am on Feb. 9, 2025, at the Cathedral of the Holy Family, 123 Nelson Road, Saskatoon, S7S 1H1. Most Reverend Mark Hagemoen, Bishop of Saskatoon, will be presiding.

You are encouraged to use the ritual of blessing and prayers of the faithful to bring attention to the important service of Catholic Healthcare and the many parishioners who are dedicated to the healing ministry of Jesus Christ.

To aid in this please find included with this message:

- A ritual of gratitude and blessing.
- Prayers of the faithful.
- A template bulletin announcement for your parish.

At the beginning of this Jubilee year, I hope you will welcome this opportunity to strengthen the faith of all those who are committed to the healing ministry of Christ.

Thank you for considering this invitation,

Peter Oliver

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Peter Oliver". The script is cursive and fluid.

Executive Director - CHAS

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Attached Below:

## **Ritual of Gratitude and Blessing**

### **Words of invitation**

This celebration of the Compassionate Healers' Mass reminds us of the celebrations of Catholic Health Care Week that take place this month across Canada, and it echoes the 2025 Jubilee: Pilgrims of Hope. Speaking to the 2025 Jubilee year, Pope Francis has emphasized the importance of those who serve in health care saying, your "Works of mercy are also works of hope that give rise to immense gratitude."

Joining the Holy Father in this spirit of gratitude we want to acknowledge and bless those who journey with the vulnerable, sick and dying. You are the hands and heart of Jesus offering hope in our common pilgrimage of healing and conversion.

At this time, we take a moment of silence to bring to mind the faces and names all those who

- Support ailing loved ones in their own home,
- Volunteer in our care facilities,
- Serve as nurses, doctors and care aids,
- Offer spiritual care, and social support,
- Work as administrators or building managers,
- Provide technical support and food services,
- Respond to the needs of the poor,
- Visit the lonely,
- Extend support and counsel to the addicted,
- Attend to the wounds of victims of crime,
- And walk with Christ in the person of the prisoner.

Moment of silence (30 seconds)

The priest will offer a prayer of blessing.

## **Blessing**

Good and gracious God,  
as pilgrims of hope, we bring before you all  
who serve in the healing ministry of Jesus Christ.

In this Jubilee year we ask your blessing on these caregivers.

May their strength and devotion be renewed  
for the unique work of compassion to which they are called.

Imbue them with wisdom and skill; sympathy and patience; strength and  
courage.

Anchored in Christian hope, keep them strong in your service.

Let your light shine in them as they accompany the vulnerable, sick and dying,  
to the glory and praise of your holy and blessed name.

Amen.

## **Prayers of the Faithful**

Lector: The response is - *Lord, hear our prayer.*

For the Church, in its pilgrimage with the risen Lord, standing in prayerful  
solidarity with the sick, poor and the marginalized.

We pray to the Lord. - *Lord hear our prayer.*

For those receiving care, especially those who are most vulnerable, that they  
experience empathy and hope-filled compassion in the midst of health  
difficulties.

We pray to the Lord. - *Lord hear our prayer.*

For the mission of Catholic hospitals, community health centers, and senior care homes. Inspire the leadership and staff to be beacons of hope for those experiencing illness, disability, and end of life.

We pray to the Lord. - *Lord hear our prayer.*

For all who work for justice and healing in our common home—caring for the earth and raising up the poor – help us recover a sense of universal fraternity and refuse to turn a blind eye to the tragedy of the harm done to our earth and its people.

We pray to the Lord. - *Lord hear our prayer.*

For government leaders in this year of jubilee: may they work to enact legislation and policies that elevates human dignity and protects the life of every human person from conception to natural death.

We pray to the Lord - *Lord hear our prayer.*

Recognizing the loneliness and isolation many elderly face, we pray for grace to cherish their life experiences and treasure their wisdom born of years of perseverance through adversity.

We pray to the Lord - *Lord hear our prayer.*

### **Bulletin Announcement**

An annual Compassionate Healers' Mass will be celebrated in the Roman Catholic Diocese of Saskatoon on Sunday, Feb. 9, 2025, at the Cathedral of the Holy Family, 123 Nelson Road, Saskatoon, S7S 1H1. Most Reverend Mark Hagemoen, Bishop of Saskatoon will be presiding. This celebration brings attention to the 2025 Jubilee Year by blessing and praying for the ministry of Catholic Healthcare which is essential to the Church's pilgrimage of hope. It also reminds us of [National Catholic Health Care Week](#) (Sun., Feb.2 – Sat., Feb. 8, 2025) with its focus on care for creation (an important theme of the Jubilee year). All are welcome.