



## The Dove March 2021

*A publication of the Holy Cross Faith Community Nurse Program*

### Greetings from the Holy Cross Faith Community Nurse Program.

Dear Friends,

This week we are seeing the first doses of Johnson and Johnson, the third approved vaccine against COVID-19, administered at the hospital. As more of the population gets vaccinated, we can look forward to the time to gather again. More importantly this week, we are celebrating Catholic Sisters Week. Here at Holy Cross that means celebrating our founders, the Sisters of the Holy Cross. It is a good moment to celebrate all Women Religious, including our friend and former Director, Rev. Carmella Jones, D.Min, now serving in Hungary. An update on her work there is included below.

May God bless all women working to bring God's love to those they serve.

*Meg*

### Celebrating Catholic Sisters Week

March 8-14

Though the Faith Community Nurse Program was established in 1993, the first real Faith Community Nurses arrived in 1963. When the Sisters of The Holy Cross opened the doors to



this hospital, they knew that to care for the sick meant ministering to mind, body and spirit. In many different ways, this is what they have been doing since. It is impossible to count the lives blessed and changed by their work and the witness of their faith. It was under Sr Rachel Callahan, then Chief Mission Officer of HCH, that the FCN department was formed. Her support and that of the administration was critical to establishing our department as the first of its kind in this area. The mission they set forth, continues today : **To serve together in the spirit of the Gospel as a compassionate and transforming healing presence within our communities.**

Check out this [video](#) for more history on the Sisters of the Holy Cross

Top: The ground breaking of HCH 1963 and below: CSC at the groundbreaking of HCGH in 2013.



## supporting CHILDREN *on the* MARGINS

Thinking back to the time when God first called Carmella from her nursing career as the Director of the Holy Cross Faith Community Nurse Program and an ordained Baptist minister to move to Hungary in 2016 with International Ministries, Carmella says, "I felt totally out of my element: But this is so clearly where God has led me. My prayer is that they will see the hope in my smile that says God is near".

Carmella's infectious smile greets the children of the Pannonhalmi Bela Baptista School in Budapest, Hungary, the only school in the entire country for children with learning disabilities. Carmella interacts with every child in the school as the school chaplain and English teacher.

Additionally, Carmella serves at Tabitha House, the only pediatric hospice institute in Hungary, with just ten beds for children with terminal or chronically life-limiting conditions.

Carmella recognizes the hand of God caring for them through every nurse, every volunteer, every heart filled with compassion. It is a comforting gift to parents knowing their child is treated with kindness, dignity and compassion.

It is comforting to us to know her faith and joy continues to be a light to those she serves.

# COVID 19 Vaccine Update

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On Friday February 26th, HC FCN department along with other colleagues in Community Health, were lucky to be part of our first community COVID vaccine clinic. Our community partner, Kingdom Fellowship Church, identified vulnerable members who received the first dose of the vaccine. Over 125 persons were vaccinated successfully thanks to the tremendous efforts of all involved. Kingdom Fellowship transformed their church and welcomed all so warmly. We look forward to more opportunities to work together towards better health, deeper faith and a time when communities can return fully to shared worship.

In just over two months (since Friday, Dec. 18, 2020), Holy Cross Health has administered more than 18,000 vaccinations to colleagues, physicians, care partners and members of our community.

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At KFAME on February 26th- top: happy recipients post vaccination ; Kim Crilly RN and client ; the Nursing Team from L-R , Betty Baklarz, Kim Crilly, Julianna Caneiro, Lourdes Nunez and Meg McKenna

## Ministry Spotlight: Holy Cross FCN

**Monthly Circles**  
**4TH WEDNESDAY**  
**12:30pm-1:30pm**

NEXT ONE: **March 24th**

Please join us for a webex gathering for anyone involved in Health Ministry for an hour of resources sharing, reflection and fellowship. Feel free to share this link that will enable participants to 'join meeting'. If you are



unfamiliar with webex, **these instructions** may help. If you would like invite emailed, please let us know. (link below will work regardless of email)

[Webex Link](#)

### **Community Resource:**

AARP and Elizabeth Dole Foundation announce **Free Respite Relief** program for Veteran and Military Family Caregivers. Veteran and Military Caregivers can apply online at <https://hiddenheroes.org/respite>



### **UPCOMING EVENTS:**

**Ask Our Colorectal Surgery Experts**

**March 18th 1pm**

**March 18th 1pm**

Tune in live for a robust discussion about early colorectal cancer screening, diagnostics, and the latest treatment options.

**Register for Live FB event below**

[Register here for FB Live event](#)

### **March: Colorectal Awareness Month**

If you thought colonoscopies were recommended only for people 50 and over, those recommendations recently changed. New guidelines from the **U.S. Preventive**



**Services Task Force** now recommend that men and women should start getting screenings for colorectal cancer at age 45.

Colorectal cancer is most frequently diagnosed in people ages 65 to 74 years, but an estimated 10.5 percent of new cases are being seen in people under 50, according to the Task Force

- **Learn more at HC FB live event March 18th 2021, 1pm-Link Above**

### **Colon Cancer Prevention classes**

March 18th 12pm -1pm

March 24th 4pm-5pm

via webex

**Please contact Stacey Bisnette: [Stacey.Bisnette@HolyCrossHealth.org](mailto:Stacey.Bisnette@HolyCrossHealth.org) ; or by calling **301-754-8710** to get more information or to register for these classes.**

Holy Cross Health also offers a range of **fitness and movement** programs to improve cardiovascular health and reduce stress. For upcoming dates, times and locations for our health and wellness, fitness and movement programs, visit **Holy Cross Health**.

- Wesley Theological Seminary's Heal the Sick Program will be offering **Online Health Minister Certificate- Summer 2021** please visit **[www.wesleyhts.org](http://www.wesleyhts.org)** for more information

### **News from :**



Caring for the Human Spirit Conference  
***World Technology meets Human Compassion***  
will be virtual again this year, April 12-14, 2021  
More information can be found **here**.

### **Join Our Email List:**

Got this as a forward? If you would like to connect with the Holy Cross Faith Community Nurse Program and receive our e-mails, please let us know.

Email : **[fcnprogram@holycrosshealth.org](mailto:fcnprogram@holycrosshealth.org)**

**Holy Cross Faith Community Nurse Program**  
**[HolyCrossHealth.org/fcn](http://HolyCrossHealth.org/fcn)**



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*These resources are provided to assist you and not to endorse any particular entity, service or event.*