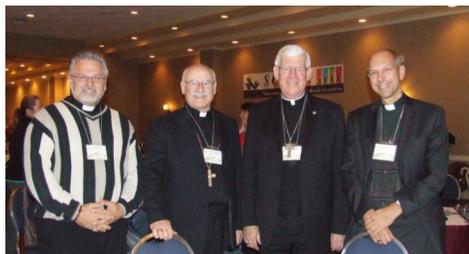


Joint Conference Celebrates Catholic Health and Education

Winter driving conditions in early November did not affect the spirit, curiosity or the opportunity to come together for the first-ever jointly held convention of the Catholic Health Association of Saskatchewan (CHAS) and the Saskatchewan Catholic School Boards Association (SCSBA). ‘*One Lord, One Call – a Rainbow of Ministries*’ was held at the Regina Inn on November 2 – 4, 2012. The purpose of the conference was to bring people together to celebrate Catholic health and education in Saskatchewan, and, to remember how this province owes much to the many religious congregations who were tireless in the development of quality health and education even before the inception of Saskatchewan as a province. “One Lord, One Call” served to inform and re-affirm delegates of how the Gospel message continues to permeate Catholic Health and Catholic Education, with the call to action to build holistic community support from home, parish, school, and health care settings.

The importance of this gathering did not go unnoticed, as the province was represented by its four Catholic



Bishops. In attendance on the Friday evening were (above, from L to R): **Bishop Bryan Bayda**, Ukrainian Catholic Eparchy of Saskatoon; **Bishop Albert Thevenot**, Diocese of Prince Albert; **Archbishop Daniel Bohan**, Archdiocese of Regina, and **Bishop Donald Bolen**, Diocese of Saskatoon. The crowd of 275+ warmly welcomed and acknowledged their witness and affirmation.

Coordinated in conjunction with this conference was the Provincial Youth Day, held during the day on Friday, November 2nd. A snow storm did affect the attendance from the west and central areas of the province, however, there was still great participation from about 150 high school students. Jesse Manibusan, a world renowned musician and speaker from Texas, engaged the youth in a high energy, interactive presentation. The Youth Day was also

marked with the celebration of Mass. Organizers spoke highly of the day, noting how students coming together were provided ‘a tangible and bigger sense of family’ making reference to 121 Catholic schools in Saskatchewan.

Delegates attending the convention included a relatively even split between Health and Education, comprised of health practitioners, educators, as well as a collective of administrators, board members and trustees. Also in



attendance were representatives from each diocesan office, parishes, the Catholic Women’s League, and Knights of Columbus.

The convention provided exceptional and thought provoking speakers who went out of their way to establish the importance of “celebrating in the now”, “being aware of our vocational call,” and “how a ‘lived faith’ is the most powerful inspiration to others.”

Jesse Manibusan (above), a Catholic evangelist, offered a blend of humour, story-telling and song to engage the audience in a message for “seeing the ‘*sacred in the secular*’ in every moment of every task of our work.”

David Wells (right), Director of the Vicariate for Formation in the Diocese of Plymouth in East Devon, England provided a humorous look at the state of culture, and proposed that those who work in Catholic health and education are better at ministry than they give themselves credit for.



Delegates attended one of two Catholic health breakout sessions. **Fr. Mark Miller**

(right), Provincial Superior for the Redemptorists in Canada, delineated the difference between Catholic Health and Catholic Education in post-modern systems and then offered a strong defense for the



Joint Conference, continued from page 1...



continuation of having a publically funded Catholic system in our province.

Sr. Sarah Quakenbush is from the Sisters of St. Joseph of Sault Ste. Marie and serves as Vice President of Mission, Ethics and Spirituality with the Catholic Health Corporation of

Ontario. Asking, “What will be *your* legacy?” she addressed the role of our Catholic leaders entrusted to carry out the mission and ministry in our Catholic sponsored works in parish ministry, education, healthcare and social programs. Sr. Sarah provided a specific focus on the personal call of each person to be a healing presence in society and the voice of hope in addressing the needs of the most vulnerable in our world.

Eight breakout sessions of Catholic Education explored themes of: being called to transform attitudes; living out

our call for eco-justice; building character in stewardship, revisiting the sacred tradition of making a retreat; a response to our call to stewardship of our Catholic faith; building on-going faith development for staff; celebrating past, present and future of Catholic education and re-imagining inter-school elementary athletics.

As a first-time initiative, feedback received through evaluation submissions offered a consistent summation of “feeling blessed to have the opportunity to learn and share our faith that is a part of our life in Catholic Education and Catholic Health.” Others spoke of “the passion and energy present in our church and the feeling of empowerment to stand up in solidarity of these joint ministries.” The Catholic Health Association of Saskatchewan and the Saskatchewan Catholic School Boards Association were also encouraged by the feedback supporting the idea of future joint conference gatherings.

- submitted by *Sandy Normand*

Catholic Health Association 2012 Award Recipients

CHAS Mission Award: Sr. Therese Leclair

Sr. Therese Leclair currently serves as Mont St. Joseph’s “Volunteer Extraordinaire!” As a member of the Sisters of



CHAS Director, Therese Jelinski presents award to Sr. Therese LeClair (right)

Our Lady of the Cross, Sr. Therese began her time at Mont St. Joseph Home in Prince Albert in 1962 with a one year posting as their head cook. She then served and led in a variety of positions - Supervisor of Dietary, Housekeeping, Laundry and Maintenance, Receptionist for the Head Office, and for

four years (from 1975 to 1979) she was able to do what she loved best when she was put in charge of sewing, mending and seeing to the clothes of the residents. After her retirement in 1989, she continued to play a big part in the community of Mont St. Joseph by volunteering her time visiting the residents, helping some of the ladies with hair-do’s, assisting with fundraising, and serving as President of the Mont St. Joseph Auxiliary for six two-year terms. She was also an original member of their Spiritual Care Companions team. We applaud Sr. Therese for her combined 30 years of service (staff and volunteer) to Mont St. Joseph Home. Sister Therese was much more than a volunteer at Mont St. Joseph Home. As a community member of Prince Albert for more than 50 years, she was also an active

parishioner at St. Joseph’s Parish. Sr. Therese recently moved to Saskatoon, but her presence will be greatly missed - both at Mont St. Joseph and in the Prince Albert community at large.

Moola Freer Palliative Care Award: Barb Hale

Barb Hale graduated from nursing in 1981 and has been working in the Regina Qu’Appelle Health Region since 1991. She has worked in the Palliative Care Program for the past sixteen years, the last eight as a Clinical Nurse Consultant. Barb is very proactive in continually enhancing her learning and education in the area of palliative care. Of significant



Sandra Kary presents award to Barb Hale (right)

note was the recent opportunity to travel to London, England, where she was able to attend a two-week class with world-renowned teachers and lecturers on hospice and palliative care. Colleagues and friends of Barb would attest to her deep respect for the principles and values of palliative care mission and philosophy. She is seen as outstanding in her field when it comes to hands-on care, and is seen as a wonderful leader and contributor in the field of palliative care. She is an invaluable asset to the RQHR Palliative Care Program, and has advanced knowledge in pain management and medications. Her expertise in this area is highly recognized both within the program and the Region.

2012 Award Recipients, continued from page 2...

CHAS Honorary Membership: Jean Mahoney

Jean Mahoney started her nursing training at St. Paul's Hospital School of Nursing in Saskatoon, and worked for



Fr. Mark Miller presents certificate to Jean Mahoney

many years in the area of Occupational Health in Regina. A woman wired for leadership, Jean quickly found herself on many committee, boards, task forces, and initiatives in health care. In the mid-1980's Jean was President of the Saskatchewan Registered Nurses Association, and led with a vision to

promote the image of nursing, develop key partnerships with government, and create educational bursaries and scholarships for deserving Saskatchewan nurses.

Also during this time, Jean was actively involved with the Catholic Health Association of Saskatchewan, serving on its AIDS Steering Committee, Task Force for Health Care Reform, Ethics Committee, and on the Board of Directors, with her Presidency spanning 1989 - 1991. She also served on the Board (as a member and President) of the Sas-

katchewan Catholic Health Corporation, as well as being a member of numerous hospital boards in rural Saskatchewan and urban areas served by Catholic health facilities.

Beyond her contributions in health care, Jean has had a tremendous impact in the Church of Regina and Canada for over 40 years. She has distinguished herself in all levels of the Catholic Women's League. She has served on various Advisory Boards - Birthright, Martha House, Regents-Campion College, Regina's Mobile Crisis Inc., Saskatchewan Nurses' Foundation, Provincial Health Advisory Committee, Catholic Family Services, and many others. Jean has received numerous awards and lifetime memberships including the: Canada Volunteer Award, YWCA Women of Distinction Award, Queen's Golden Jubilee Medal, Saskatchewan Volunteer Medal, and Papal Honors (in 2007 and 2010).

Today, Jean continues to serve tirelessly. You can find her volunteering in Spiritual Care Ministry at Regina General Hospital two mornings a week, offering pager relief for RGH Chaplains, and volunteering a full day on Wednesday at the Surgical Intensive Care Unit of RGH. She also serves in her parish - St. Anne's, Regina - assisting with Eucharistic Ministry, visitation and Home Ministry of Care.

Becoming Tradition - The Compassionate Healers Mass

As an annual event, the Compassionate Healers Mass was held in Saskatoon on September 20th at the Cathedral of the Holy Family with Bishop Donald Bolen, in Prince Albert on October 14th at the Sacred Heart Cathedral with Bishop Albert Thevenot, and in Regina on October 24th at Holy Trinity Parish with Archbishop Daniel Bohan. The mass is held to honour and give thanks in gratitude for all those who provide health care: medical personnel, administrators, health care workers, volunteers, parish nurses, men and women religious in health care ministry, ministry of care volunteers in parishes and health care facilities, and those caring for family members. Sandra Kary, Executive Director for the Catholic Health Association, offered in her remarks that "Catholic health care does not have the monopoly on compassionate care. However, we do draw on our abundant life

in Christ (John 10:10), as a source beyond our own efforts, and the motivation of our service to others." The Compassionate Healers Mass provides an opportunity to gather as



community and be supported, affirmed and re-commissioned to the special vocational call of all those who serve in the healing ministry of Jesus. The *Ritual of Commissioning of Caregivers* was offered and those attending the mass were called in their faith to deepen their commitment to the mission of the Church and invited to come forward to have their hands anointed as a sign of their resolve to live more fully as a 'healer' - a source of God's presence in the community. With hands extended, the celebrant anoints their hands asking; "Will you go forth into the community to be the presence of Christ?" to which each responded, "I will."

Santa Maria Transfers Ownership

Transfer of ownership of Santa Maria Senior Citizens' Home in Regina was celebrated on Monday, November 19th. Once held by the Archdiocese of Regina, ownership and sponsorship will now be held by the Catholic Health Ministry of Saskatchewan (CHMS), which is governed by the Saskatchewan Bishops. A service was held in the Santa Maria Chapel to commemorate the transfer, followed by a reception in the lobby.

CHAS Board and Staff for 2012 - 2013



We are pleased to introduce our 2012-13 CHAS Board and Staff:

Back row, L to R: Marissa Alarcon (Executive Assistant); Peter Martens (Secretary/Treasurer, Saskatoon); Chris Donald (Saskatoon); Scott Irwin (CHMS Participant) Chris Boychuk (President, Saskatoon); Brian Martin (Past President, PA); Fenton Yeo (Macklin), Bert Yakichuk (Regina), Sandy Normand (Mission Education Coordinator)

Front Row, L to R: Sandra Kary (Executive Director), Shirley McNeil (Saskatoon); Jill Beatty (Saskatoon); Therese Jelinski (Saskatoon); Bonnie Thiele Hunt (Vice-President, Regina)

Absent from photo are: Bishop Don Bolen (Bishop's Representative), Joy Mendel (Ethicist, Saskatoon), Brian Zimmer (Saskatoon)

Welcome to Marissa

On October 9, 2012 Marissa Alarcon joined the CHAS staff. Marissa received her Bachelor of Science (in Physics) and Masters of Arts (in Education) in the Philippines.



She worked as a high school physics teacher in a Catholic school in Naga City, Philippines. She and her family then moved to Dubai for three years where she worked as an Executive Assistant to the Managing Director of a large international corporation. They moved to Canada in 2009, settling in Toronto. She worked as an Administrative Assistant for Re/Max, and then an Office Manager for Sutton Group.

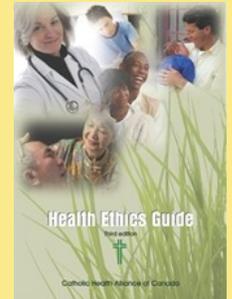
With a slow economy in Ontario, they decided as a family to move to Saskatoon. In December 2011, she took on the duties of Financial Clerk/Parish Administrative Assistant at St. Augustine Parish, the parish where she and her family attends. The 0.8 EA position at CHAS will allow her to continue doing the bookkeeping for the parish one day a week. Marissa is married with two children, 14 and 7 in age. Welcome Marissa!

New CEO in Gravelbourg

Welcome to Derry Martens who started as CEO of St. Joseph's Hospital/Foyer d'Youville in October. Derry comes from Manitoba, and brings with her several years of senior management experience in rural/northern health care, including her last position as CEO of Churchill Regional Health Authority in Manitoba. Derry is replacing Mr. John Kelly who has accepted a dual position with the CHMS and Santa Maria in Regina.

New Release: Health Ethics Guide

THIRD EDITION 2012



The Catholic Health Alliance of Canada has released the third revision of the *Health Ethics Guide*. The Guide is meant to provide guidance in light of new advances in science and medicine, and seeks to firmly ground the guide in the Gospel message. Moreover, it incorporates a more fully articulated vision of the social nature of health care along with the values and principles that are embedded in the Gospel.

The *Health Ethics Guide*:

- underlines the fundamental commitment within the Catholic tradition to the ministry of caring for those who are sick and suffering;
- articulates the values and principles that provide guidelines for ethical decision-making; and
- promotes a pastoral understanding of how these principles and values can guide decision making in health and social services.

Price: \$20.00
10 or more copies: \$18.00 each



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