

Our Community of Service With Others, for Others

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CALL TO PRAYER

LEADER: We gather as a community of service, bound together by the call to serve in the Catholic health ministry living out the healing ministry of Jesus. Some of us deliver care directly, perhaps in a hospital, an emergency department or an outpatient program. Some work in primary care settings, long-term care facilities, physician practices or in people's homes. Many are called to the networks of support for those who deliver direct care. Whatever our roles, we are here for others — and for each other. Everything we do is intended to serve those whom Jesus would have us serve in his name. In this ministry, you are the light of the world. Let us listen to Jesus' words from the Sermon on the Mount.

READING I

Matthew 5:14-16 (*New American Bible*)

READER: You are the light of the world. A city set on a mountain cannot be hidden. Nor do they light a lamp and then put it under a bushel basket; it is set on a lampstand, where it gives light to all in the house. Just so, your light must shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your heavenly Father.

LEADER: With Jesus' words in mind, let us listen to the words of the Irish poet, John O'Donohue.

READING II

From *Anam Cara: A Book of Celtic Wisdom* by John O'Donohue

READER: When we perform an action, the invisible within us finds a form and comes to expression. Therefore, our work should be the place where the soul can enjoy becoming visible and present. The rich unknown, reserved and precious within us, can emerge into visible form. Our nature longs deeply for the possibility of expression in what we call work.

LEADER: For a few moments, let us reflect silently on the life-giving and light-giving nature of our work together and the personal meaning we derive from our service with others, for others.

Listen reflectively to "Spirit of the Living God" or another appropriate hymn.

ALL: Lord God, we thank you and praise you for the glorious light of your spirit in the world. We rejoice in your call to serve in this ministry of health care. Be with us in our labors. Fill us with joy as we extend our hands in love. Let our light shine in the name of your son, Jesus, our brother in healing. Amen.



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