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SSM Health names Patrick McCruden as new Chief Mission Integration Officer

ST. LOUIS, MO (Dec. 20, 2017) – SSM Health has named Patrick McCruden as its new Chief Mission Integration Officer. In this role, McCruden will lead the strategic integration of SSM Health’s Mission, Values, Vision and Catholic identity into all aspects of the organization from culture and structure, to policies, programs and practices. He will also lead the development and implementation of a full continuum of activities designed to spiritually, ethically and culturally enrich SSM Health employees and physicians.

McCruden, who begins Feb. 12, brings more than 35 years of Catholic health care experience to SSM Health, including 20 years as a mission leader in Iowa and Arkansas for Catholic health systems. Most recently, he served as Senior Vice President and Chief Mission Officer for Catholic Health Initiatives – St. Vincent, a four-hospital health system in central Arkansas.

“Patrick is a passionate and mission-focused leader with tremendous expertise and experience in Catholic health care,” said Laura S. Kaiser, president/chief executive officer of SSM Health. “He will be a wonderful asset to SSM Health as we continue to uphold our Catholic identity and further expand our ministry of providing exceptional, compassionate care to the communities we serve.”

McCruden has authored many articles about clinical and organizational ethics and serves on the Theologian and Ethicist Advisory Committee for the Catholic Health Association. He is a board-certified chaplain and an ordained permanent deacon in the Catholic Church.

A native of New York, McCruden holds a bachelor’s degree in philosophy from the University of St. Thomas in St. Paul, Minn.; a Master of Theological Studies from Catholic Theological Union in Chicago; and a master’s degree in Bioethics and Health Policy and a doctorate in Bioethics from Loyola University Chicago.

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About SSM Health

[SSM Health](#) is a Catholic, not-for-profit health system serving the comprehensive health needs of communities across the Midwest through a robust and fully integrated health care delivery system. The organization’s more than 35,000 employees and physicians are committed to providing exceptional health care services and revealing God’s healing presence to everyone they serve. With care delivery sites in Illinois, Missouri, Oklahoma and Wisconsin, SSM Health includes 20 hospitals, more than 60 outpatient care sites, a pharmacy benefit company, an insurance company, two nursing homes, comprehensive home care and hospice services, a technology company and one Accountable Care Organization. With more than 9,500 providers in four states, SSM Health is one of the largest employers in every community it serves. An early adopter of the electronic health record (EHR), SSM Health is a national leader for the depth of its EHR integration. For more information, find us on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#).