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The International Catholic Committee of Nurses and Medico-Social Assistants  
Comité Católico Internacional de Enfermeras y Asistentes Médico-Sociales

NOVEMBER  
2025



## From the International President's Desk

Pilgrims of Hope. Greetings to all of you my dear brothers and sisters as we enter approach advent period. We look forward to the good tidings of the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ. I have been humbled by the work all of you are doing in the regions of CICIAMS. This bring Hope that the work of CICIAMS will remain amidst the contemporary global challenges.

The good work, commitment and dedication of the membership bears testimony that as Catholic Nurses and Health workers we are still committed to the oath we took to serve humanity in whatever circumstance, focusing on the most vulnerable and needy members of our societies. We continue to accept the challenges of making our governments see that the basic needs of our people have not yet been met. We have to accept the challenge of making our governments more accountable. It is unfortunate that some members of society and leadership continue to choose to be blind to the destitution of our vulnerable groups and the plight of Lazarus who lies skin and bones on the streets unable to access what is even --- what is reserved for the dogs. We need to add weight to the cries of the voiceless women and children who suffer gender based violence; who continue to be victims of wars, raise our voice against corruption the scourge that has destroyed our economies, our social facilities like schools and health facilities; giving wealth of our countries to the greedy national elites and foreign powers.

I would like to conclude by thanking all CICIAMS members for all the charitable works done by all of you in your little corners. The world might not realize, but the difference is felt and appreciated by those you serve. My most sincere appreciation also goes to all the members who attended various meetings in Rome and other counties. We acknowledge; your commitment, dedication, sacrifice and even spending your financial resources to ensure the voice of CICIAMS is heard. I hope we can all read the Newsletter and learn from all the shared reports and insights.

To sum it all, I would like to use an extract from the message of Pope Francis for the Seventy-fifth meeting of the General Assembly of the United Nations. (2020) "For *whereas individuals can help others in need, when they join together in initiating social processes of fraternity and justice for all, they enter the "field of charity at this most vast namely political charity". This entails working for a social and political order whose soul is social charity*" Let us keep praying for the success of our Congress in Thailand and support all the preparations that are ongoing. I thank you.

---Dr. Rosemary Khosi Mthethwa, MPH, PhD, RN



CICIAMS XXII World Congress, Thailand

**EARLY REGISTRATION OPEN until 31 January 2026**

Executive Board meeting 9 Nov; General Council Meeting 10 Nov;

Congress 11-13 Nov; Optional Excursion 14 Nov 2026

Baan Phu Waan Pastoral Training Center, 2/4 Moo 6, Petkasem Rd.

Tha Kham, Nakhonpathom 73110 Thailand

Program, Registration & Call for Abstracts at: [www.ciciams2026.com/](http://www.ciciams2026.com/);

[info@ciciams2026.com](mailto:info@ciciams2026.com); Facebook: CICIAMS.2026

**REGISTER NOW FOR DISCOUNT – Early Registration ends 31 January 2026**





# CICIAMS XXII WORLD CONGRESS

Hosted by the Catholic Nurses Guild of Thailand (CNGTH)

**EARLY REGISTRATION discount ends 31 January 2026**



**Roseanne Nyabera,**  
Chair, Professional  
Committee

The Chair of the Professional Committee has been working closely with the CNGTH Program Planning Committee and promptly updating an exceptional program for the CICIAMS XXII World Congress.

Abstract review is ongoing and will be finalized by the end of the year 2025. Early bird registration ends January 31, 2026.

Each region and national president needs to rally their members to participate and register early via the website.

Our hosts have selected a beautiful facility 45 minutes from Bangkok. Register at [www.ciciams2026.com](http://www.ciciams2026.com). Please register as early as possible. You will receive receipt automatically when registration process completed. National President, please provide a list of those attending.

For those arriving earlier than 8 November 2026, you may reserve a hotel in Bangkok or contact the Baan Phu Waan and request additional nights directly at <https://baanphuwaan.org/en/home-en/>

.....National Presidents and those attending the General Council Meeting (GCM) make sure to select either General Council (9-14Nov) or if you will arrive a day early, Executive Board (8-14Nov).

Regarding those who partake in the November 14 tour and river board cruise, your luggage will be moved by our host to only the hotel listed in the online registration: **Arnoma Grand Bangkok Hotel**. Book through the link in the registration. Special room rates have been secured.

Information regarding airport transportation is available in the registration at a cost of \$50/van which has a capacity of six individuals. Hope to see many of you in Thailand in 2026!

Thank you CNGTH, your planning has been excellent

Registration-fee-summary-(9-13-Nov-2026)-CICIAMS-XXII-World-Congress¶¶

Category¶	Registration-Period¶	Room-Type-&-Dates¶	Fee- (USD)¶
<b>Participants¶</b>	Early Bird (1-July – 31-January-2026)¶	Twin Room (10–14-Nov-2026)¶	\$590¶
¶	Standard (1-February – 30-June-2026)¶	Twin Room (10–14-Nov-2026)¶	\$650¶
¶	Late (1-July – 30-September-2026)¶	Twin Room (10–14-Nov-2026)¶	\$700¶
<b>Executive-Board-Members¶</b>	Early Bird (1-July – 31-January-2026)¶	Twin Room (8–14-Nov-2026)¶	\$690¶
(No-Late-Registration)¶	Standard (1-February – 30-June-2026)¶	Twin Room (8–14-Nov-2026)¶	\$750¶
<b>General-Council-Members¶</b>	Early Bird (1-July – 31-January-2026)¶	Twin Room (9–14-Nov-2026)¶	\$640¶
(No-Late-Registration)¶	Standard (1-February – 30-June-2026)¶	Twin Room (9–14-Nov-2026)¶	\$700¶
<b>Accompanying-Persons¶</b>	Accompanying-Participants (1-July-2025 – 30-June-2026)¶	Twin Room (10–14-Nov-2026)¶	\$450¶
(No-Early-Bird-&-Late-Registration)¶	Accompanying-Executive-Board-Members (1-July-2025 – 30-Jun-2026)¶	Twin Room (8–14-Nov-2026)¶	\$550¶
¶	Accompanying-General-Council-Members (1-Jun-2025 – 30-Jun-2026)¶	Twin Room (9–14-Nov-2026)¶	\$500¶

Theme: HUMAN DIGNITY AND PEACE:  
TIME FOR GLOBAL TRANSFORMATION

1. Perspectives of Catholic Nurses in Applying a Theology of Healthcare
2. Empower Catholic Nurses to Promote Human Values from Conception to Dignified Death
3. Unity in diversity - Being a Catholic nurse in a multi-cultural world

ABSTRACT Notification:  
May 2025-January 2026  
[info@ciciams2026.com](mailto:info@ciciams2026.com)

## Prayer for the CICIAMS 2026 World Congress

O gracious Father, Redeeming Son, and Holy Spirit, we humbly ask You to enlighten and guide the 2026 CICIAMS XXII World Congress. May all Catholic nurses be united in heart and spirit, standing firm in faith and bearing witness to the message of Your love and mercy for all humanity. For it is You alone, O Lord, who sustain the hearts of Your beloved people, created in Your image, to uphold their dignity and to dwell in peace, a peace the world itself cannot give.

We beseech the Holy Trinity to pour out blessings upon all participants. Grant them safe travels to and from the congress. May the weather during our gathering be pleasant and calm, free from rain, flooding, pandemics, illness, or any form of disaster, including political unrest or national crisis. Let every heart be touched by the warmth and beauty of Thailand, a land where You, O Lord, have sown the seeds of faith and the hope of Your eternal Kingdom. We place all our plans and intentions into the loving hands of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

May this World Congress of Catholic Nurses be for the everlasting glory of our God. Through the grace of Christ Jesus, Your Son, who lives and reigns with You, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God forever and ever.

**Amen** (Please pray in union with CNGTH and CICIAMS Executive Board. Composed by Sr. Magdalena Daodee, PhD, RN, President, CNGTH.)



*Sr. Magdalena with  
Pope Francis*



## From the CICIAMS Pan America Region



Bonnie Blachly  
President, NACN-USA

### NATIONAL EDUCATION CONFERENCE National Association of Catholic Nurses, U.S.A. (NACN-USA)

The National Association of Catholic Nurses, U.S.A. hosted a National Education Conference at the Felician Sisters Madonna University in Livonia, Michigan, July 11-13, 2025. The Theme: *Catholic Nurses: Leading with Faith and Transforming Healthcare*. NACN-USA President, Bonnie Blachly, welcomed the attendees via zoom recovering from a recent serious automobile accident. All pray for her speedy and full recovery.



The keynote address was given by Christine Niles (center) who is a Freelance Reporter and Investigative Journalist and founders of *Stella Maris Media*. Christine shared the challenges her family faced immigrating to the United States from Saigon, Vietnam through France as her father, an engineer, looked for work and was graciously sponsored and supported by a generous citizen of the United States for a year as he learned to speak English and then was able to substantially contribute to the work of the company. Christine shared her journey to the Christian faith and how Divine Providence has operated in her life. She then highlighted aspect of the Holy Father's 1935 address mentioned below and the contributions that Catholic nurses have made. Her podcasts ends with, "Forward Boldly," quoting the courageous St. Joan of Arc. Her keynote address is available at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=S8i6N1uOQqc>



His Excellency  
Bishop Joseph L. Coffey

His Excellency Bishop Joseph L. Coffey, Auxiliary Bishop of the Archdiocese of the Military Services responsible for the spiritual care provide in the Veterans Administration hospitals, provide the second keynote address. Many of you may remember His Excellency from the 2022 XXI World Congress hosted by NACN-USA in Doylestown, Pennsylvania, U.S.A. The Most Reverend Joseph Coffey highlighted many of the contributions of nurses in his life and across the globe.

Deacon Mariusz Mark Kosla, RN, MSN, MA, CCRN-CMC, a permanent deacon in the Archdiocese of Chicago and adjunct faculty at the University of Saint Mary of the Lake Seminary and who has over 30 years' nursing experience discussed End-of-life issues and issues related to the ethical care of patients and their families. He challenged nurses to be vigilant in safeguarding the patient's right to ethical decision making, advocating for their spiritual care and not dismissing the moral conscience of each patient and clinical care giver.



Deacon Mariusz  
(Mark) Kosla



## From the CICIAMS Pan America Region NACN-USA National Education Conference (cont'd)

From CICIAMS, greetings were given by Dr. Khosi Mthethwa, MPH, PhD, RN, CICIAMS International President via zoom. Sr. Cecilia Adache, Chair, CICIAMS Family Committee also provided an address discussing the issues with infertility in Nigeria and other countries in Africa and their efforts to assist couples teaching the Creighton Model Fertility Care System and NaproTechnology. Participation of both was via zoom. CICIAMS Secretary General, Diana Ruzicka presented the Holy Father Pope Pius XI's August 27, 1935 address to 2000 nurses assembled at Castel Gandolfo for the II World Congress of Catholic Nurses: Nursing: The Apostolate of Charity. Dr. Anne Reeser, CICIAMS Representative to the United Nations presented the April 2025 oral statement given at the UN and shared their experiences testifying on behalf of CICIAMS before the Commission on Population and Development. Anne also serves as the NACN-USA Treasurer and was one of the key NACN-USA members organizing this excellent Education Conference.



Dr. Anne Reeser

Professors from several universities were in attendance as NACN-USA establishes chapters at ten (10) Catholic Universities nursing programs. This was a great opportunity for each to share their experiences and network. Erica Smith & Dr. Elaine C. Hardy provided information about Medical Missions and their work with the Hospital Sisters Mission Outreach which provides repurposed supplies and equipment to hospitals in need across the world. <https://www.hshs.org/mission-outreach/mission-outreach-blog>. Following the conference, Erica facilitated placing CNG-Bangladesh and Eswatini Catholic Nurses Guild (ECNG) in touch with Vicki Detmers Manager for the Sisters Outreach Mission. CNG-Bangladesh is association with a School of Nursing and Hospital. ECNG actually staffs a Catholic hospital/clinic in Eswatini. The text box below list the other excellent presentations and presenters. Time was also set aside to review several excellent poster presentations.



Dr. Elaine C. Hardy & Erica Smith

### Additional Nurse Presentations – An Excellent Slate of Speakers & Topics:

- The Renewed Practitioner: Integrating Spiritual Care into Nursing Practice, Mary Gannon Kaufmann
- Wellness Promotion and Risk Reduction, Dr. Carol Vos
- Nursing Moral Distress: Building Catholic Moral Resilience, Dr. Richard Becker
- Making Incident Command Understandable & Catholic, Christopher Kelly
- Integrating Catholic Spiritual Healthcare into Nursing Praxis, Dr. Teresa Sipos
- REACHing Students: Infusing Catholic Healthcare Ethics Across the Curriculum, Dr. Michele L. Blackwell & Christina M. Rochester
- Innovative Online Bridge Program to Improve Admission and Retention of At-Risk BSN Nursing Students at a Hispanic Student Serving Institute, Dr. Judith Rogers Fruiterman & Dr. Melissa Leisen
- Evaluation of a Social-Emotional Learning Program in a High Poverty Elementary School, from a Catholic Perspective, Dr. Joann Iverson
- Catholic Nurse: Therapeutic Communication (Apologetics), Dr. Valeria Kubanick



Sr. Anne Victory

On day #3, Sr. Anne Victory, HM, RN, MSN, a member of the Leadership Team of the Sisters of Humility of Mary, who served 32 years as a clinician, educator and administrator in nursing presented on the Collaborative to End Human Trafficking. Sr. Anne is a founding member of the Alliance to End Human Trafficking (formerly known as the US Catholic Sisters Against Human Trafficking).

Conference attendees prayed the rosary as they walked to displays of the mysteries and prayed the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass together. NACN-USA is indebted to Madonna University and especially Zachary McAllister, Instructor at Madonna who locally coordinated the conference and CEUs.



NACN-USA Leadership with →  
keynote speaker, Christine Niles



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## From the CICIAMS Pan America Region

### 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Blessed Virgin Mary's Request for the Five First Saturdays Devotion

#### December 10, 1925

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by Diana Ruzicka, CICIAMS Secretary General & NACN-USA Member



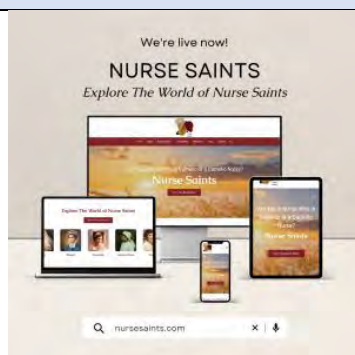
On **December 10, 1925**, the Blessed Virgin Mary and the Christ Child appeared to Sr. Lucia at Pontevedra, Spain in the convent where Lucia was a postulant and showed Lucia her Immaculate Heart encircled with thorns. The Child Jesus spoke saying, **Have compassion on the Heart of your most holy Mother, covered with thorns, with which ungrateful men pierce it at every moment, and there is not one to make an act of reparation to remove them.**

Our Lady then requested the Five 1<sup>st</sup> Saturdays, **Look, my daughter at my Heart surrounded with thorns with which ungrateful men pierce me every moment by their blasphemies and ingratitude. You at least try to console me and say that I promise to assist at the hour of death, with all the graces necessary for salvation, all those who on the 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday of five consecutive months, shall confess [their sins], receive Holy Communion, recite five decades of the Rosary, and keep me company for fifteen minutes while meditating on the mysteries of the Rosary, with the intention of making reparation for me.**

**July 13, 1917 – 1<sup>st</sup> Secret of Fatima** – After showing the children a vision of hell, the Blessed Virgin Mary said, **You have seen hell where the souls of poor sinners go. To save them, God wishes to establish in the world devotion to my Immaculate Heart. If what I say to you is done, many souls will be save and there will be peace. The war is going to end; but if people do not cease offending God, a worse one will break out during the pontificate of Pius XI. When you see a night illuminated by an unknown light, know that this is the great sign given you by God that He is about to punish the world for its crimes by means of war, famine and persecutions of the Church and of the Holy Father.** (Pope Pius reigned from February 6, 1922 to February 10, 1939). **2<sup>nd</sup> Secret of Fatima** – **To prevent this, I shall come to ask for the consecration of Russia to my Immaculate Heart and the Communion of Reparation on the First Saturdays. If my requests are heeded, Russia will be converted and there will be peace; if not, she will spread her errors throughout the world, causing wars and persecutions of the Church. The good will be martyred, the Holy Father will have much to suffer and various nations will be annihilated. In the end my Immaculate Heart will triumph. The Holy Father will consecrate Russia to me and she will be converted, and a period of peace will be granted the world. In Portugal, the dogma of the Faith will always be preserved.**

Why 5 Saturdays was explained by Our Lord to Sister Lucia on **May 30, 1930 in Tuy, Spain:** **Daughter, the motive is simple. There are five kinds of offenses and blasphemies spoken against the Immaculate Heart of Mary, blasphemies: 1) against her Immaculate Conception, 2) perpetual virginity, 3) divine maternity, refusing at the same time to accept her as the Mother of mankind; 4) by those who try publicly to implant in the hearts of children an indifference, contempt, and even hate for this Immaculate Mother and 5) for those who insult her directly in her sacred images.** Our Lord ended this communication by telling Sister Lucia that it was His own mother who asked for these acts of reparation in order to move Him to **forgive those souls who have the misfortune of offending her.** Those who commit such blasphemies against our Lady are in grave jeopardy of losing their souls, for these sins seriously offend God Himself.

I encourage each one of you to complete the Five First Saturdays. The above booklet is not required but is available at [www.lulu.com/spotlight/Ruzicka](http://www.lulu.com/spotlight/Ruzicka). Proceeds go to CICIAMS.



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### Nurse Saints Website --- [www.nursesaints.com](http://www.nursesaints.com)

by Diana Ruzicka, CICIAMS Secretary General & NACN-USA Member

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The Nurse Saints website went live in October 2025, the month of our Lady and of the Feast of Our Lady of the Rosary. It includes short biographies for nurses and those who provided nursing care who have been declared Saint, Blessed, Venerable, Servant of God and Martyr. There are also pages for resources and links to key Vatican documents applicable to nurses. **If you see that a particular nurse from your country is missing, please send information to [Diana.Ruzicka2025@gmail.com](mailto:Diana.Ruzicka2025@gmail.com).**

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**From the CICIAMS Europe Region**  
**Mary Farnan, CICIAMS Webmaster Featured**  
**Association of Catholic Nurses of England and Wales (ACNEW), United Kingdom**  
**by Diana Ruzicka, SG (introduction) and Mary Farnan**

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Many hands make the work easy. In successful organizations, each member contribute to the mission donating one or all of the following: time, talent and/or treasurers. Some members do so in the background without receiving accolades. Mary Farnan is one such person. Mary Farnan has served as the CICIAMS webmaster for many years. She donates the annual fee for the website as her contribution to CICIAMS. She does this not asking for recognition. Some months she spends many hours addition to and modifying the website. We owe a debt of gratitude to Mary Farnan. In recognition of her excellent work behinds the scenes, she was asked to share her story:



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There are times in all of our lives when we ask ourselves ' how did I get here ' and look back at a series of events that have contributed to our journey . My mother was from a large Irish family of nurses , 2 of whom were religious sisters in a nursing order , so I never questioned that nursing was a vocation . When I had my 3rd child in 1979 she was born with spina bifida and hydrocephalus and a heart defect that made her too ill for surgery so was provided with palliative care until she died at 8 weeks. Midwives informed me of a spate of others the same time and when I returned to the parish playgroup ,I had been attending and helping at with my 2 oldest children whilst pregnant I found a colleague helper who had also been pregnant had also lost her baby with a neural tube defect . Rubella and Measles were rife but are not usually associated with NTDs . I continued with the playgroup under a cloud of depression that did not lift until I had my 4th child and had discovered that many Catholics , family and friends , who did not believe in Church teaching on abortion could be judgmental , especially when I refused an amniocentesis on my 4<sup>th</sup> pregnancy , not wanting a termination or risk to the pregnancy of miscarriage .The priest who had supported our family became aware from posters I had produced for the playgroup that I was quite artistic and recruited me to produce art work for and to put together the weekly newsletter - in days of cutting and pasting



*Mary Farnan, CICIAMS Webmaster; Rosalyn Ooko, President, CICIAMS Africa Region; Joyce Asufi, Chair, CICIAMS Ethics Committee and Sr. Cecilia Adache, OSF, Chair, CICIAMS Family Committee - Jubilee of Healthcare Workers, Rome, April 2025*

before computers and clip art. In time I returned to work part time and the Health Trust was seeking to train a willing Catholic to be able to teach Natural Family Planning for them . In my early health visiting years it was health visitors, who then had to be also trained in midwifery, who were the professionals who provided advice and charts on the safe period to families so I was experienced and familiar with the 'safe period' . Educated in a girls' convent grammar school where staff and pupils, contrary to Church teaching welcomed advances in birth control ,in an effort to be an emancipated female married Catholic who wanted to complete training before a family I had tried but had found I could not take the pill for any length of time due to side effects , particularly after the birth of my first child .

As I had always kept charts for personal use and offered advice and charts for it where needed at work I agreed to my Health employer's request to attend this new more developed training on the sympto-thermal method developed from the work of Billings Australia, Creighton USA and Dr Anna Flynn in the UK . The course teachers were Drs Anna Flynn and Dr John Kelly , 2 local very prominent Catholic obstetricians and gynaecologists ,and I became both involved attending the organization study days and conferences and with various research projects conducted by Dr Anna Flynn around fertility awareness particularly the Bellagio consensus statement presented to the Vatican by Dr Anna Flynn on breast feeding and fertility and global family planning trends in the early 1990s decade . Both doctors were members of the Catholic Medical Association so because of my involvement with natural family planning and because of my experiences around the loss of the baby , during the early 1990s decade I sought out the nurse equivalent - the Catholic Nurses Guild . After submitting a Natural Family Planning conference report I was soon requested to join the Executive Cttee of the Guild.



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## From the CICIAMS Europe Region

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### Mary Farnan, CICIAMS Webmaster Featured (cont'd)

Association of Catholic Nurses of England and Wales (ACNEW), United Kingdom

by Diana Ruzicka, SG (introduction) and Mary Farnan

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*Mary Farnan, CICIAMS XIX World Congress,  
Dublin, Ireland-2014*

In time ,because of my experience with our parish newsletter I took over the Journal. During the early millennium years we acquired our first family internet package at home and I realised how many organizations already had up and running websites . I picked the brains of my children who had studied computer skills at school ,went to PC World and bought a beginners guide to setting up a website and managed to find a website W3Schools that supplied information on html codes and a hosting company that allowed WYSWYG drag and drop (that also converted to html that I then learned to become familiar with) and presented a basic website to the Executive Cttee that I had set up for our Diocesan Branch .. Members of the Exec were becoming more aware of the need for a national website ,the high cost of paying someone professionally and quite impressed with what I had done at diocesan level gave me the task of producing the national one . Nora McCarthy then attended a CICIAMS

international meeting around 2010 and came back and informed me I had a new job - the CICIAMS website - so here I am 15 years later still playing with and still at times learning new html when I need to do something different . Websites now also have to be mobile as well as laptop or computer friendly. Most modern low cost drag and drop sites function as a new type of responsive one that restricts the amount of information and often home in on what they read as important when



*Mary Farnan with nurses from England, Ireland, USA and Poland  
1st International Pilgrimage walking in the footsteps of  
Blessed Hanna Chrzanowska, RN, April/May 2019  
(1st anniversary of the beatification of Blessed Hanna).  
Planned and coordinated by Dr. Gosia Brykczynska, PhD, RN, OCV,  
English biographer for Blessed Hanna and President, CICIAMS Europe Region*

converting from laptop to phone plus will expect to advertise on the site or charge a cost so I have stuck with basic html one which is free apart from the annual cost of the website url address [ciciams.org](http://ciciams.org) . By keeping up to date with new html developments I do work to also keep this free site up to date and html adjustments have been made to make it easier to convert from laptop to mobile phone. If you have your phone in portrait position turn it around to landscape and you will see everything as you should do .

Some nursing reflections on the past year: 2025

by Gosia Brykczynska, PhD, RN, OCV, President, CICIAMS Europe Region  
Association of Catholic Nurses of England and Wales (ACNEW), United Kingdom

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This has been one of those years which clearly delineates change and marks new beginnings. Following an ancient church tradition, 2025 was declared a successive Jubilee Year by Pope Francis. However, when the CICIAMS delegates and Catholic nurses and healthcare workers from around the world met for their jubilee pilgrimage in Rome in early April, they had no way of knowing that the fleeting glimpse they had of Pope Francis at the end of the Jubilee Mass in St Peter's Square, was to be the last time they would see him alive. He came out to greet us stating that he wanted to personally thank the medical and nursing staff for all that they do, and especially for the care he received from them at the Gemelli Clinic.

Several nurses from Italy and Poland subsequently sent me reports and photos from his lying in State and from his funeral. For me, an incredibly evocative image from that period was the impromptu meeting of President V. Zelensky of Ukraine with President D. Trump of the USA, both sitting on plain church chairs at the back of St Peter's basilica, in earnest discussion about the need for peace. This was just minutes before the start of the Requiem Mass. Pope Francis now lies buried under a simple marble slab in his beloved basilica of Santa Maria Maggiore and we are blessed with his successor, Pope Leo XIV. A missionary Pope from USA.

As the year gathered momentum, the Catholic nurses of Thailand started to finalise their preparations for the next CICIAMS World Congress in Bangkok in 2026 and I was asked to give them some assistance with the preparations, which I consider a great privilege and honour. Among so many other reasons, it is the very universality of nursing that I find so attractive and endearing.



Stanisława before 1939

This year has been for me a year of the pen, and in preparation for a biography I am writing of Servant of God Stanisława Leszczyńska, a midwife, whose forty years of midwifery practice included two years working as a midwife in Auschwitz-Birkenau concentration camp, I spent a month doing research on Stanisława in Poland. I talked to midwives involved in promoting her canonisation cause and priests in the Łódź diocese; I even talked to members of her family, visited her midwifery school in Warsaw, saw her home and Parish church in Łódź where she is now buried, went on pilgrimage to the Gestapo goal where she was held prisoner and tortured prior to being sent to Auschwitz. It is now a very moving museum. I attended a conference in Kraków on *Medicine in Auschwitz*, organised by a group of health-care workers interested in medicine as it was 'practiced' in the concentration camps. Cardinal Grzegorz Ryś, current archbishop of Łódź and a great promotor of Stanisława's cause, has kindly agreed to write the introduction to the biography.

While in Poland I was reminded of the superb film prepared by a group of international nurse historians on the activities of German nurses during the Third Reich, entitled – *Caring Corrupted*. This deeply moving documentary film can be viewed over the internet and is already obligatory viewing in several American schools of nursing. The makers of the film were rewarded for their insightful work with the honour and award of *Nurses' With a Global Impact* in 2023, during International Nurses Week. It is crucial that as thoughtful Catholic nurses we understand the mechanisms by which contemporary professional nurses can end up like their earlier German colleagues advocating euthanasia and actively participate in shortening the lives of their patients. Already, too many countries are forcefully demanding the participation of healthcare workers in assisted dying, an issue very much on our minds at present, as our parliament in the UK debates this problem.

Meanwhile, our nursing colleagues in Canada are warning us of the dangers and consequences of going down the road of legalizing assisted dying and euthanasia. This sad and harmful activity affects everyone in society but especially undermines the caring work of nurses and violates their consciences and hard-earned professionalism. Therefore, the more we understand how such behaviours are presented and promoted, the better we will be able to present our own arguments against the introduction of such harmful and un-ethical practices. Most Catholic nurses work and deliver their care in a secular society, often dismissive of religion and spirituality; as such they need to be able to respond to the challenges they encounter in that secular and negative world. (*continued next page*)



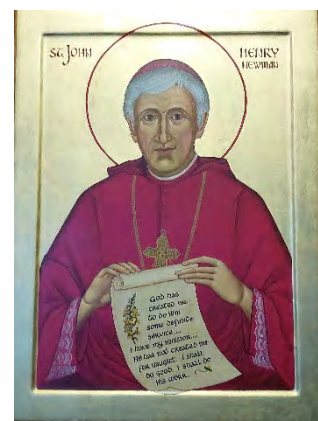
I managed to deliver a talk to Polish nurses in Wrocław, on the occasion of the centenary of their professional nursing association. I spoke to them about the life and work of a little-known American nurse and health visitor, Elisabeth Frances Crowell (1875-1950) who personally influenced the thinking and operations of the International Red Cross and the Rockefeller Foundation around the world during the inter-war period. She was instrumental in founding several schools of nursing in Europe and the establishment of hundreds of international nursing scholarships which were to benefit a whole generation of professional nurses. She was one of the first graduates of St Joseph's School of Nursing in Illinois – run by the Daughters of Charity. Educated by Dominican sisters, she was a committed Catholic all her life. Interestingly, she was a good friend of Servant of God Maria Epstein (Sister Magdalena, OP 1875-1947) the director of the Kraków School of Nursing whom she hugely admired. She retired to Italy and died there. She is buried in Santa Margherita, outside of Genoa.



Early autumn saw the publication of my translation from the Polish of the memoirs of Blessed Hanna into English. Now, English speaking nurses from around the world can also familiarise themselves with her writings, not only those working in Poland. The book can be bought anywhere in the world via AMAZON and there will also be copies available to buy at the Congress in Bangkok. Finally, I am assured that the long awaited publication of my nine short biographies of holy professional nurses is to be available soon, hopefully in time for Christmas. It is published by The Catholic Truth Society in London and will launch a series of books about holy men and women who worked in various professions, such as scientists, teachers, artists and so on. It's reassuring and an honour to know that nurses are leading the way...

This year, St John Henry Newman (1801-1890) was declared a Doctor of the Universal Church, joining 37 other great saints, including four women - St Catherine of Sienna, St Teresa of Avila, St Thérèse of Lisieux and St Hildegarde of Bingen (all great mystics and writers on spirituality). When Cardinal St John Henry Newman was declared a doctor of the church by Pope Leo XIV, he joined the only other English doctor of the church – the great Venerable Bede (673-735), who had been declared a Doctor of the Universal Church in 1899 by Pope Leo XIII. Two great Englishmen declared doctors of the Universal Church by two Leos... My small personal contribution to the promotion of the cult of St John Henry Newman consists of four rather quirky illustrations I did for a booklet about Newman's London, written by a member of the Catholic Writers' Guild, Joanna Bogle.

I wish to therefore conclude my recollections about this unusual year with one of my favourite quotes attributed to the great English saint Cardinal Newman. To me it speaks so clearly about our nursing endeavours which so often are barely understood by us and therefore much under-rated by society, yet all the time are part of an eternal plan. *God has created me to do him some definite service; He has committed some work to me which he has not committed to another. I have my mission; I never may know it in this life, but I shall be told it in the next. I have a part in a great work; I am a link in a chain, a bond of connection between persons. He has not created me for naught. I shall do good, I shall do His work; I shall be an angel of peace, a preacher of truth in my own place, while not intending it, if I do but keep His commandments and serve Him in my calling.*



2. A 56-minute film, *Caring Corrupted: the Killing Nurses of the Third Reich*:  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Rz8ge4aw8Ws> Accessed 12/11/2025
3. *Memoir of Blessed Hanna Chrzanowska*, Translated by G Brykczynska, 2025 ISBN -13 979-8262983018
4. *Newman's London – A Pilgrim Handbook*, by Joanna Bogle, Gracewing Publication, 2019 ISBN-13 : 978-0852449417



## From the CICIAMS Europe Region (cont'd)

### Centenary Celebration of the Parish of Our Lady of Victory, Cracow and Canonization Process for Servant of God Magdalena Maria Epstein, OP, RN Catholic Association of Polish Nurses and Midwives Katolickie Stowarzyszenie Pielęgniarek I Położnych Polskich (KSPiPP)



KSPiPP Members with images of  
Servant of God Sister Magdalena  
Maria Epstein, OP, RN and  
Blessed Hanna Chrzanowska, RN

Servant of God Sr. Magdalena Maria Epstein OP Foundation  
www.fundacjainikoni.pl

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PKO BP 04 1240 4650 1111 0010 4575 5153



The material was issued with the approval  
of the Church authority

National Presidents,

We have a request:

Would you kindly join the Polish nurses and  
ask, "When will the canonization process for Sr.

Magdalena Maria Epstein, OP, opened in 2004, conclude? The process was closed in  
2007 on the diocesan level. We pray with the Dominican sisters for those seeking graces  
through the intercession of the Servant of God, Sister Magdalena Maria Epstein."



Almighty and merciful God, look  
benevolently on the humbleness, love,  
and utter devotion to You of Your  
Servant, Sister Magdalena Maria Epstein  
and deign to include her among the Blessed. Accord us,  
with her intercession, the following grace: ... for which  
we implore You through our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.  
Our Father..., Hail Mary..., Glory be to the Father...

We ask you to inform about the graces accorded  
to you with the intercession of the Servant of God:

Dominican nuns

ul. Mikołajska 21, 31-027 Kraków

email: grodek@dominikanie.pl

www.grodek.mniszki.dominikanie.pl



Servant of God Magdalena Maria Epstein, OP, RN



15May2013-Plaque  
on the wall of the  
family home at 32  
Slawkowska Street,  
thanks to the efforts  
of the Malopolska  
Regional Chamber of  
Nurses and Midwives  
& the Catholic  
Association of Nurses  
and Midwives

Sr. Magdalena Maria Epstein was born on August 2, 1875 in the Pilica castle, near Olkusz, in a wealthy family of a convert, banker of Jewish descent, Leon Epstein. Her mother, Maria from the Skarżyński family, belonged to the class of the Polish landed gentry. Beside comprehensive education, her family home gave her deep religiosity and patriotism. She showed great compassion to the distressed and the suffering since her childhood days. After the deaths of her parents, she completely sacrificed her life to help the ailing and the poor.

First, with a group of young women, she arranged a small hospital adjacent to a dispensary run by the Daughters of Charity. In 1911, she set up the first School of Professional Nurses in Cracow. During the First World War, she provided healthcare, within the framework of the Ducal-Episcopal War Victims Relief Committee, for wounded soldiers and civilians afflicted with epidemics. In 1925, cooperating with the Jagiellonian University authorities, representatives of the American Red Cross and the Rockefeller Foundation, she established the modern University School for Nurses and Hygienists, giving it high professional and ethical level. After passing the administration of the institution into good hands (at the end of 1930), she joined the enclosed Dominican convent in Gródek, Cracow (March 24, 1931), where she spent 16 years, setting a good example of humbleness, love, and zeal for the monastic life. At the center of her devotion she placed the Crucified Christ. She died in the odour of sanctity on September 6, 1947 and was buried in the Rakowicki Cemetery, Cracow.

On September 30, 2004, Cardinal Franciszek Macharski started the canonisation process of the Servant of God in the Dominican Sisters church "Na Gródku". It was closed on the diocesan level on April 20, 2007 by Cardinal Stanisław Dziwisz, who passed the dossier to the Congregation for the Causes of Saints in Rome.

#### From the spiritual notes of sister Magdalena Maria Epstein OP

*I want to love Jesus for the present and the future time; for all  
those days when I did not love him enough.*

\*

*To perform all our duties only for love of God and with care  
about the salvation of souls. To try to be pleasing  
to God in everything.*

\*

*When our thoughts drift apart from God and we forget about his  
presence, we should often say ardent prayers with our hearts.*

\*

*Not to dwell on thinking about our faults in order not to flounder  
into them, to turn away from them in order to give ourselves  
to God, who loves us, more fully and with boundless trust.*

\*

*Our love for God should be the most beautiful and the purest.  
The real love for God is indicated by deeds.*

\*

*Each deed reacts with our souls. Goodness bring goodness, but  
one conscious act of evil causes further evil. Let us seek virtues,  
because each deed shapes our souls.*

\*

*To boundlessly trust God and to pray for reaching the level  
of perfectness destined for us by him.*

\*

*In everything that is pleasant, but also in the greatest  
humiliation, if you, God, wish to send it on me, I want repeat  
these words always and everywhere:*

**Fiat voluntas Tua**



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## From the CICIAMS Asia Region

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### Catholic Nurses Guild of Malaysia (CNGM) 54<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting and Retreat Bundu Tuhan Retreat Centre, Ranau, Sabah, Malaysia August 29-September 1, 2025 by Mary Narayanasamy, National President, CNGMI

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Our 54th AGM started with the opening prayer from our National Chaplin Rev. Fr. Mark Neol Bonchol, in the presence of Reverend Father Kenneth G. Sleyman, MM, International Catholic Committee of Nurses and Medico Social Assistants (CICIAMS) Ecclesiastical Assistant and Prof. Emeritus Hiroko Shimizu, PhD, RN, President, CICIAMS Asia Region. The meeting started at 2pm on the August 29, 2025 at the conference room of the retreat centre in Ranau, Sabah, Malaysia. It was attended by 92 members from 15 groups of Catholic nurses from Malaysia. The agenda of the 54th AGM of the Catholic Nurses Guild of Malaysia was as follows:



1. Welcoming address from the President of CNG Malaysia, Ms. Mary a/p Narayanasamy
2. Confirmation of minutes from the 53rd AGM.
3. Treasurer's Report.
4. Reports from Vice Presidents of Sabah, and Sarawak.
5. Reports from all CNG groups.

These are the following common activities of the various groups of Catholic nurses:

- 5.1. Celebrating Solidarity Mass in January 2025.
- 5.2. Rendering first aid during parish events and Mass.
- 5.3. Conducting health screening in churches.
- 5.4. Assisting in Blood donation drives in the parish.
- 5.5. Home visiting the elderly homes, assisting with collection of medication.
- 5.5. Celebrating Easter, Birthdays, and Christmas caroling with fellowship.
- 5.6. Assisting in church activities as Lectors, Holy Communion Ministers and flower arrangements, choir and others.

#### 6. Other Matters

- 6.1. Amentments to the constitution The registered address has been changed to St.Louis Church, no 288 , Jalan Convent, 34000,Taiping, Perak, Malaysia beginning from 1st September 2025.
  - 6.2 . Prayers will be said for Sybil Kathigasu on the 12th of every month for her to be beatified as a saint. Offer a rosary prayer for this courageous nurse of World War II.
  - 6.3. The next 55th AGM will be held in Miri, Sarawak.
- The meeting adjourned at 5.20pm.

## From the CICIAMS Asia Region (cont'd)

### Catholic Nurses Guild of Malaysia (CNGM) (cont'd)

#### 54<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting and Retreat

Bundu Tuhan Retreat Centre, Ranau, Sabah, Malaysia

August 29-September 1, 2025

by Mary Narayanasamy, National President, CNGMI



After the 54th AGM meeting, we started our spiritual annual retreat. The retreat was conducted August 29 to September 1, 2025 at the Bundu Tuhan Retreat Centre in Ranau, Sabah, Malaysia by

- CICIAMS' Father Ken Sleyman, MM, Catholic Foreign Mission Society of America (Maryknoll Missioners) from St. Mary's College and Hospital, Kurume, Japan where he is both a professor and chaplain together with
- Professor Emeritus Hiroko Shimizu, President, CICIAMS Asia Region. One hundred and fifty (150) participants attended the spiritual retreat which consisted of daily confessions, the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass, presentations, illustrative

videos, praise and worship, rosaries, a pilgrimage to a church with procession of the Holy family and praying at the Rosary hill.

We praise God for the beautiful weather and great homly by Bishop John Wong during the official opening of the retreat.

The retreat consisted of four (4) parts:

1 Forgiveness: remembering three (3) aspects:

- 1.1. We need to receive forgiveness from God through the sacrament of reconciliation.
- 1.2. Forgive others always.
- 1.3. Accept forgiveness from others and self forgiveness for errors committed.

2. Suffering: It is the essence and heart of our clinical practice. It is our witness to our capacity to care and love others, to bring healing to others.

3. Hope. This year is the Jubilee of Hope. We nurses are Pilgrims of Hope. We need Hope. We need Trust. We need encouragement to care, and give Hope to others.

4. Nursing as Liberation. This consisted in freedom to carry out nursing care for our patients, respecting our own beliefs and Catholic ethics. No one can force us to practice against our conscience.

We ended with a relaxed environment, fun filled night of music, dance and fellowship.



Thank you to all participants, each collected a gift from Prof. Emeritus Hiroko and Rev. Fr. Ken.

Love all of you very much for sharing, encouraging and caring for the Catholic nurses of Malaysia.



(Left front): Rosalin Sulit, CNGM Educational Commission Leader; Prof. Emeritus Hiroko Shimizu, President, CICIAMS Asia Region; Rev. Fr. Kenneth G. Sleyman, MM, CICIAMS Ecclesiastical Assistant & Retreat Master; Rev. Fr. Mark Noel Bonchol, CNGM National Chaplain;  
(Right front): Mary Narayanasamy, President, CNGM; Sagayahmary, CNG member from Taiping; Velothin S. Agustin, CNGM National Secretary; Mary Jacob, CNG member from Batu Bahat, Perak, Malaysia.



## From the CICIAMS Asia Region

### 22<sup>nd</sup> National Convention held in collaboration with FIAMC Bio-Medical Ethics Centre



Catholic Nurses Guild of India (CNGI)

Theme: Human Dignity and Peace as the Heart of Compassionate Medical Care

St. Pius College Complex, Goregaon East, Mumbai, India, October 17-19, 2025

by Sr. Sarla Macwan FC, National President, CNGI



The National Conference was held 17-19 October. About 125 Catholic nurses who are life members and 20 nursing students attended the conference along with 5 ecclesiastical advisors. The general body meeting and elections took place.

Friday, 17 October 2025

1.00 To 4.00 pm: Arrival and Registration of Participants

#### INAUGURAL SESSION

Prayer Dance: Rev. Sr. Lalita, S.R.A., Stella Maris Hospital, Uttan, Mumbai

- Beautiful, contemplative & inspiring tone set for our deliberation
- Welcome Address: Rev. Sr Sarla Macwan, F.C.: *National President CNGI and Executive Director, St. Elizabeth Hospital, Mumbai*
- Message from the dignitaries
- Inaugural Address by Most Rev. John Rodrigues, Archbishop of Bombay
- Lighting of the Lamp by the Dignitaries
- Felicitation of Dignitaries
- Message of the Apostolic Nuncio: His Excellency, Most Rev. Leopoldo Girilli

**The Holy Mass** was celebrated by Bishop Lumen Montero and Bishop Dominic Savio Fernandez. After the mass the hands of the nurses were blessed.





## From the CICIAMS Asia Region

### 22<sup>nd</sup> National Convention held in collaboration with FIAMC Bio-Medical Ethics Centre

#### Catholic Nurses Guild of India (CNGI) (cont'd)

**Talks and Presentations by the Speakers:** There were speakers from various fields who gave presentations, talks and conducted workshop for the nurses on the following topics:

➤ “Human Dignity and Peace as the Heart of Compassionate Medical Care” was described under the following components:

- 1 Human Dignity in Medical Care
2. Peace in the Healing Environment
3. Compassion: The Connecting Bridge
4. The Role of Healthcare Professionals
5. Current Healthcare Scenario in India
6. Nursing the mental health of nurses.
7. Physician-Nurse Collaboration to boost patient care
8. Role of Nurses in Health Promotion
9. Legal Aspects of Nursing: Nurses as Advocates
10. Nurses as ambassadors to protect the Environment
- 11 Burnout and Fatigue in Nursing
- 12 Psychological Safety for Nurses
- 13 Holistic Care in Hospital Settings
- 14 The POCSO Act – What Nurses should know about it.
- 15 Building Trauma-Informed Nursing
- 16 Coping mechanisms for anxiety and depression among nurses
- 17 Therapeutic Environment in Nursing Care
- 18 Beginning of Life Issues Nurses face today





## From the CICIAMS Asia Region

### 22<sup>nd</sup> National Convention held in collaboration with FIAMC Bio-Medical Ethics Centre

Catholic Nurses Guild of India (CNGI) (cont'd)

#### **CNGI GENERAL BODY MEETING:**

President's Report of CNGI and NGI: Sr Sarla Macwan, F.C. Conducted the meeting. National report was presented by the president. Audited Accounts of CNGI (from 2020 to 2025) were presented. CNGI Region Wise Reports were presented. CNGI Diocese Wise Reports were presented. Region-wise Meeting & Reorganizing of CNGI Regional/Diocesan Units was done. This AGBM was moderated by Fr. Stephen Fernandes

#### **Election of the CNGI National Board Members:**

Announcement and Felicitation of New CNGI National Board Members

Sr Sarla Macwan FC  
National President

Sr. Sonia Sebastian FDCC  
National Vice President

Mrs. Ida Mendonca  
National Secretary

Mrs. Albina Poshapir  
National Treasurer

**Poster competition:** There was a poster competition on the Theme and 4 groups got their prizes for the best posters. Best nurse award was given to 4 nurses. At the National level, Regional level, State level and the Diocese level. This was to encourage the participation of the catholic nurses.



Additional pictures at: <https://photos.app.goo.gl/9X5Y17F9sCdUW5x8A>; <https://photos.app.goo.gl/B4VMUvHr8wLETx2K6>; <https://photos.app.goo.gl/CPTd87KHrbNqCRvq5>

## From the CICIAMS Ethics Committee

### CICIAMS Ethics Guidelines & Policy for Minors and Vulnerable Adults

Thank you for your review and comment on the **CICIAMS Ethics Guidelines** and the **Safeguarding Policy for Minors and Vulnerable Adults** which was circulated for review earlier this year. Your suggestions and comments have been incorporated in the documents. CICIAMS Statutes require that any policy for approval must be sent to General Council members (e.g. the Presidents of each national Catholic Nurses Association) six months prior to the vote at the General Council meeting. Please watch your email for these documents which will be sent in early January for your vote.



Joyce Asuft, BNSc, MPH, RN  
Chair, Ethics Committee

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## From the CICIAMS Asia Region

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### St. Mary's Bangladesh Project

#### Catholic Nurses Guild of Bangladesh (BCNG)

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#### 1. Project Objective:

This project aims to support the nursing education of nuns who are training Catholic nurses to provide maternal and child health care in extremely impoverished areas of Muslim countries.

#### 2. Background of the Project:

According to party-affiliated bureaus, the religion in Bangladesh is Muslim (91%), other (Hindu, Buddhist, Christian) (9%). There are approximately 320,000 Catholics (0.002%).

While foreign aid is distributed through government agencies, it is rarely distributed to Catholic institutions, making it difficult to train Catholic nursing personnel.

Although Bangladesh has a Catholic Nursing Guild (BCNG), the average nurse's salary is \$200. There is no pension after retirement.

In Muslim countries, when a husband dies, his wife loses social credibility and is unable to find a job.

As a result, it is difficult for the BCNG to develop Catholic nursing in the country. Furthermore, the BCNG's president, the country's only nursing professor, continues to fight various social challenges and continue to protect the BCNG, but he is powerless to do anything about its financial problems.

#### 3. Supported Organizations:

St. Mary's Catholic Nursing Institute is located at Kaligonj Gazipur, Dhaka, Bangladesh, 1720 (+880 1795-799941, juivsmra@gmail.com).

Website: <https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=61567206905235&sk>

Sociae Mariae Reginae Apostolorum (S.M.R.A.; Eng.; Associates of Mary Queen of the Apostles) founded a girls' school in 1941, opened a maternal and child health center in Kaliganj upazila in 2010, and began training 50 Catholic nurses for the center in three years in 2021.

The nuns work for meager wages, and although the building was built with German aid, there are few teaching materials, making it impossible for students to use simulation learning.

#### 4. The school's requests for support are as follows:

The school requires some instruments in the Skills Lab. The library only has about 50 reference books, so they would like English nursing textbooks; There is also very little sanitary equipment; The list is available at email below.

Additionally, because nuns in Bangladesh do not have access to training in Catholic nursing or the latest nursing science, they are looking for institutions overseas that will accept nuns.

We don't ask for all of this, but we hope for your small support. Thank you. May the Lord be with you.

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## Donations for CICIAMS Projects

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DONATIONS for the:

- **Period Friendly World / Menstrual Hygiene Project, CICIAMS Africa Region Project**  
(POC: Mrs. Rosalyn Okoobo, President, CICIAMS Africa Region)
- **Infertility & Natural Family Planning Project, CICIAMS World-wide with initial focus in Africa**  
(POC: Sr. Cecilia Adache, OSF, CICIAMS Chair, Family Committee)
  - **St. Mary's Bangladesh School of Nursing Project**  
(POC: Dr. Hiroko Shimizu, President, CICIAMS Asia Region & Mabel D Rozario, Chair, CICIAMS Midwives Committee)
  - **Blessed Hanna Chrzanowska, RN Chapel, Kingdom of Eswatini**  
(POC: Dr. Gosia Brykczynska, President, CICIAMS Europe Region & Dr. Rosemary Khosi Mthethwa, CICIAMS International President)

can be wired to CICIAMS at the IOR/Vatican Bank

(Unless otherwise indicated by the donor, 10% of each donation will be retained for CICIAMS overhead):

<http://www.ciciams.org/donatetoCICIAMS.html>

Contact the Secretary General for questions and a list of textbooks and equipment desired by the School of Nursing; and for information on all the projects at:

[CICIAMSInternational12@gmail.com](mailto:CICIAMSInternational12@gmail.com)





Annual General Meeting (AGM) & Conference, September 5-7, 2025

by Mrs. Helen Mchunu, President Southern Africa CNG

The Southern Africa Catholic Nurses Guild attended their 2025 AGM & Conference on 5 to 7<sup>th</sup> September 2025 at Pax Christi Pastoral Centre in Newcastle which is in the Dundee Diocese. The AGM and Conference was conducted under the leadership of our Chaplain, Rev Fr Thembelani Ngcobo. The theme was “Pilgrims of Hope” (Romans 5:5).

Our special guests were Rev. Fr Musa Mncwango who delivered a speech on the *Moral Theology of a health care professionals* and Rev. Fr Zakhele Ziqubu and who presented on *The role of compassion in health care*.



The President, Mrs. Helen Mchunu, welcomed all members and reported on achievements and challenges. The financial report was shared. The event was very fruitful and the guest speakers delivered informative and inspiring presentations which were well received by all the participants.

It was a blessing to receive 6 new members for enrollment and other members renewed their commitments and recited the Pledge in this Jubilee Year of Hope.

Catholic Nurses were encouraged to continue to shine their lights to serve our Parish Communities.



Members of the Southern Africa Catholic Nurses Guild (CNG) renewing their commitment and reciting the Pledge



Participants at the Catholic Nurses Guild of Southern Africa AGM & Conference



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Dicastery for Laity, Family and Life;  
2<sup>nd</sup> International Congress on the Pastoral Care of the Elderly,  
at the General Curia of the Society of Jesus in Rome, 2-4 October 2025  
*Theme: Your Old Men Shall Have Dreams*  
by Béatrice van Dorsser, BN, CICIAMS Representative on Ageing

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Five years after the first international congress on the Pastoral Care of the Elderly, the Dicastery for Laity, Family and Life organised a second congress: "Your Old Men Shall Have Dreams" ( cf. Joel 2:28).

It took place on October 2th to 4th, on the Jesuit General Curia, in Roma. Circa 150 persons participated, representatives of Bishop Conferences and members of congregations and associations. They came from 65 countries. The congress used the three world languages and Italian. The oldest speaker was 92 years old.

In the personal meeting with the Prefect of the Dicastery, Cardinal Ferrell, I remarked warm feelings for CICIAMS.

Equipped with the hope for the Elderly from some of our members and our President, it was possible to bring the hope from Catholic nurses, especially in the intensive contacts. At prevention level, I was able to shed light on hazards of the contagious short-time economy vision. Elderly can see more easily the long-term. "Elderly are the Future" ( cf. Pope Francis).

The Dicastery for Laity, Family and Life wishes to be a frame where good practices are welcome.

- The Most Reverend Kevin Cardinal Farrell, Prefect, Dicastery for Laity, Family and Life welcomed the attendees on 2Oct2025. His address and the program are available at:  
<https://www.laityfamilylife.va/content/laityfamilylife/en/eventi/2025/ii-congresso-di-pastorale-degli-anziani.html>
- His Holiness Pope Leo XIV addressed the participants in Clementine Hall on Friday, October 3, 2025. The full text is available at: <https://www.vatican.va/content/leo-xiv/en/speeches/2025/october/documents/20251003-pastorale-anziani.html>



Béatrice van Dorsser,  
CICIAMS Representative



After querying CICIAMS members with the question, "What do you hope in the care of Elderly?"

Mrs. Béatrice van Dorsser brought contributions and concerns from CICIAMS and National Nursing Association across the globe to this meeting. Dr. Hiroko Shimizu, PhD, RN, President, CICIAMS Asia Region was selected by the Japan conference of bishops to also attend.



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## From the CICIAMS United Nations Team

by Anne Reeser, DNP, MSN, APRN-BC,  
*CICIAMS Representative to the United Nations DGC/ECOSOC/UNICEF*

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Dr. Anne Reeser

United Nations Team members (Anne Reeser, Patricia Sayers, and Susanne Staiano) recently attended an online meeting called, “**Confronting the Achilles’ Heel of the UN System: Effective Approaches to Limit the P5 use of UN Security Council Veto Power**” which took place on July 16, 2025, as part of *World Day on International Justice*.

The five permanent members of the UN Security Council are China, France, Russia, The United Kingdom, and the United States of America, also known as the “Great Powers.” The representatives of these five countries have the power to veto any resolution of the UN Security Council even if the majority of the other members support the resolution. This is why the UN wants to consider changing this structure. The UN voices their concern regarding the possible implications of allowing these countries to continue to veto as they may do so in the interest of their own countries and not international affairs.

The speaker discussed three proposals related to limiting the use of the veto by UN Security Council P5 members. They discussed:

- An International Court of Justice Advisory Opinion on existing legal limits to the veto under international law.
- An International Court of Justice case on obligations to implement Chapter 6 of the UN Charter on the Pacific Settlement of Disputes mandating a party to a dispute to abstain from Security Council votes.
- Establishing a new mechanism for veto review by an elected chamber.

Understanding some of the intricate workings of the United Nations is useful information to acquire and may be helpful to bring to your attention and initiate further discussions. If you have any comments or questions, please submit them to me at: [billing@nacn-usa.org](mailto:billing@nacn-usa.org).

On another note, The United Nations Team is in the process of looking for and discussing our next project before the end of the year. We may have found a worthwhile project but are still in the process of discussions. If you have any suggestions, please reach out to me at the email above.

Thank you and God Bless you,

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## International Forum of Catholic Inspired Organizations

Villa Aurelia, Rome, November 26-27, 2025

Theme: Pilgrim of Hope for the Promotion of Human Dignity, the Common Good and Peace

by Dr. Anne Lydiah Kabimba, CICIAMS Representative to CINGO

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Dr. Anne Kabimba

The Catholic Inspired Organizations (CINGO) will meet at the end of this month to provide an opportunity for organizations to share their perspective on topics related to human dignity, the common good and peace. Dr. Anne Lydiah Kabimba, past Chair, CICIAMS Midwives Committee, who has represented CICIAMS to CINGO for several years, provided three position papers to the forum under the category, “Promoting Human Dignity.” The three topics presented by Dr. Kabimba are below. Outcomes from the forum will be presented in the February 2026 CICIAMS News.

### CARE OF THE ELDERLY

**The elderly:** An elderly person as defined by the United Nations is one who is aged 60 years and above. The definition may vary from community to community and culture to culture.

Mrs. Béatrice van Dorsser, BN, has represented CICIAMS to Crescendo, a Worldwide Network for Human and Christian Ageing, for years. Crescendo was successful in collaborating with the Vatican to establish a World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly, the 5th, of which, was celebrated on Sunday, July 27, 2025 with the theme “Blessed are those who have not lost hope.” (cf. Sir 14:2). Mrs. Béatrice van Dorsser, BN will represent CICIAMS at the 2nd Congress on the Pastoral Care of the Elderly hosted by the Dicastery for Laity, Family and Life at the Jesuit General Curia near St. Peter’s Basilica, October 2-4, 2025.

As Nurses, we all join up to care for the elderly in our various regions in collaboration with existing structures and partners (hospitals and nursing homes, homes/apartments). Activities carried out include but not limited to visiting the homes for the elderly and carrying out hygienic care activities, nutritional support activities, recreational activities, clothing them and health education on managing their own activities of daily living. We also offer psychosocial care and family counseling. We strive to build a strong support system for healthy and happy aging and to explore strategies to strengthen relationships between the families and the elderly as they age gracefully.

CICIAMS Executive Board and Representatives: M. Arvonio, M. Nowak, and P. Sayers while addressing the United Nations, 52nd Commission on Population and Development. Indicated that, Aging Population Education, values life experiences, and promotion of healthy lifestyles for the aging population to lessen dependency. Increased cognitive affluence through continued education allows people over 65 to work and to contribute to society much longer. Education needs to include prevention of health challenges and disabilities. Lai (2016) reports fertility decline as the "driver" of the aging population. A dearth of young people contributing to society and caring for the aged is anticipated among post-dividend countries (Staley, 2017). Fertility Health: Crossing Multi-Generational and Cultural Barriers. We humbly call on those who can support the Nurses (CICIAMS) to carry out this noble task to collaborate with us.

### ACCESS TO HEALTCARE; MATERNAL CARE AND MAIN INNOVATIONS

#### Introduction

**Health:** "A state of complete physical, mental, and social well-being and not merely the absence of disease or infirmity" (1948).

**Spiritual health** goes further to address the individual's sense of "**meaning, purpose and connections, something larger than self. This involves values, beliefs and morals**" that translate in peace, hope and comfort. Spiritual health is found; religious practices, nature connection, meditation and creativity, acts of service to others and personal reflections.

**Health care:** efforts by trained and licensed health professionals to maintain, restore, and promote physical, mental and emotional well-being through prevention, diagnosis and treatment. Spiritual health care focus on compassionate care: helping patients find meaning and hope in their suffering, addressing their spirituality and offering better coping mechanisms, richer social support and personal values.

**Access to health care:** Ability of an Individual to receive the required medical services when and where needed; readily available means of transport to health facility, available care providers, quality health care provision that enables high quality care and services. Hospitals provide places of worship for patients' pastoral care and other spiritual services as integral part of health care.

#### Situation in Sub-Sahara Africa

Accessibility to health care is generally marred by a myriad of issues: poor infrastructure -poor roads and means of transport, long distances in search of services, lack of awareness, poor social support, staff shortage, limited resources and extreme weather conditions common in Africa. The worst hit are the women in rural setups, semi-arid, arid areas and war zone.

Sexual and Reproductive health issues remain a thorny issue in caring for women. High costs and waiting time remain important barriers to accessing healthcare especially for chronic female conditions such as cancers that require technological diagnostic procedures and expensive treatments. Increasing population, demand for healthcare resources, public budgets and ensuring universal health coverage and timely access to high-quality healthcare with the sustainability of health systems are challenges that require sustained government commitment notwithstanding the political influence Pope Francis maintained that Health is a universal right, and access to healthcare services is not a privilege. Religious institutions contribute immensely to the provision of health care in many countries. Where women do not access the services, there is lack of Care by skilled personnel, Emergency care for life-threatening obstetric complications and unsafe abortion, Health education and services for adolescents, community education and decision makers. Addressing gender inequalities remains a cornerstone to solving most barriers. Women's status must be improved and full value accorded to their reproductive roles. Cultural traditions and practices and community attitudes that prevent women from receiving proper care must be changed.



### **Innovations:**

1. Insurance schemes that cover pregnancy, labor and child birth,
2. Evidence-based pregnancy and maternity care, information on natural family planning methods, and HIV/AIDS care supported by catholic health institutions
3. Safe Motherhood Initiative (1987)
4. Heat resistant Carbetocin injection to reduce incidences of PPH.
5. Uterine balloon tamponades (UBT) that apply pressure on the uterine wall to stop PPH.
6. AMTSL: Prophylactic intervention (administration of uterotonic, controlled cord traction (CCT), uterine massage)
7. Congo Red Dot test (Ohio University). For testing urine proteins in pregnancy
8. Biospectal OptiBP cuff-less blood pressure smartphone app. (Switzerland 2024).
9. O-POCUS (Point of care ultrasound.)
10. portable, low-cost tool; SafiStation Chlorine Generator—that can produce chlorine on site using water, salt, and electricity
11. Utilization of digital technology

### **Best practices for maternal health**

1. Health education and awareness to women and communities
2. Good sanitation and hygiene practices
3. Utilization of professional and skilled health care providers
4. Equipped health facilities
5. Health counseling and post abortion care and NFP initiatives.

**Nigeria:** Evidence-based and gender-mainstreamed HRH policy,

### **Uganda:**

- E-health/ultrasound service
- Action for women and awakening in rural environment (AWARE-Uganda)

**Tanzania:** Safer Births Bundle of Care (SBBC), on-site, simulation-based trainings for health workers' response to labor and birth emergencies

**Zambia:** Abridged specialty training program, Task shifting and community engagement

**Congo Brazzaville:** Labor and child birth education, labor monitoring guide (partogram,)

**Ghana:** Health education, Free Maternal Health Policy and the National Health Insurance Scheme

**Cameroon:** Preparing to Launch National Strategy on Maternal Health

**Advocacy:** This is central to service rendered to a woman. It focuses on ensuring that women receive equitable, high quality and patient centered care by addressing inequalities in research, funding and access. It calls for influencing policy and improving systems for gender transformative leadership and care delivery. Raising public awareness, ensuring women's unique needs are met through innovation. Women need to be supported in making informed choices, decisions and free from discrimination. Barriers to women's health must be addressed to allow women to attain their full potential. Gender equality cannot be over emphasized. Encourage women to register with advocacy organizations.

### **PERIOD FRIENDLY WORLD PROJECT**

Period friendly world is a program that is dedicated to the teaching of menstrual hygiene with the slogan: "Pad Up A Girl".

### **Introduction:**

The Africa Region of CICIAMS, one of the four regions forming the International Catholic Committee of Nurses and Medico-Social Assistants (CICIAMS), recognizes the significant impact of menstrual hygiene on girls' education. According to UNICEF, 1 in 10 African girls misses school during menstruation, leading to educational setbacks and dropout rates. Additionally, fertility care practitioners have linked many cases of blocked tubes to unsterile menstrual hygiene practices, which can lead to infections like pelvic inflammatory disease (PID) and subsequent complications. At an Africa Regional meeting, this widespread issue was identified, prompting us to initiate a project aimed at educating women on menstrual hygiene and providing sanitary pads.

## PERIOD FRIENDLY WORLD PROJECT (cont'd)

**GOAL:** To educate young girls and rural women on personal hygiene, emphasizing cleanliness during menstrual flow to prevent infections.

**STRATEGIES:**

- Advocacy visit to high school, churches, and women organizations.
- Information dissemination, sensitization and awareness creation on the implications of inadequate menstrual hygiene.
- Use of social media outlets such as radio discussion programs focused on gender issues, information flyers and local movie artists to convey the importance of proper hygiene procedures.
- Collaborating with governmental, non-governmental and private agencies working in related field in the development and dissemination of information.
- Solicit for funding from philanthropists, stake holders in the education system, families and private individuals for the purchase and distribution of sanitary towels.

We look forward to hearing from Dr. Kabimba on the success of the conference.

## Are you a Nurse who is Catholic or a Catholic Nurse?



His Holiness Pope Pius XI addressed the 2000 nurses assembled at Castel Gandolfo on August 27, 1935 at the II World Congress. He warned the nurses about the move to secularize nursing education, to de-Christianize nursing and to expel “*Christ from the bedside of the sick, from the bedside of the suffering,*”

After expressing concerns about paganism and materialism penetrating everywhere, His Holiness stated, that first and foremost nurses should bring the Christian supernatural to their patients. He continued that it was an indefectible law, “*we can never give to others what we do not have ourselves...*”

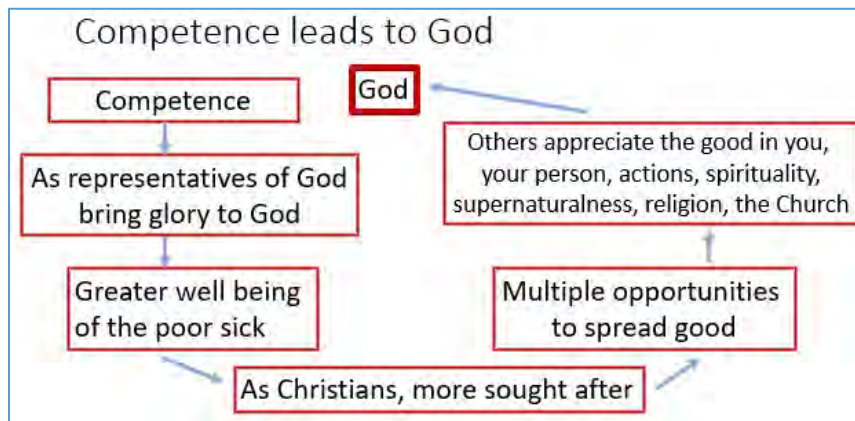


Figure 1. Summary - Nursing: The Apostolate of Charity, Pope Pius XI, August 27, 1935

**What our Lord desire of you:** CHARITY

**Overarching Directive:**

Be more and more, ever better, what you propose to be.

**Four Recommendations for Nurses**

1. First & Foremost: Bring the Christian Supernatural, Christ to the Bedside
2. Be Excellent Nurses, Technically Speaking
3. Fraternal Mutual Help - Unity like the Trinity
4. Refine & Strengthen Organization

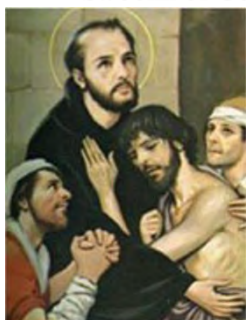
**Final Observation:**

It is Christ, Himself, in the sick and that what is done to the suffering and the sick is done to Him. Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these my brethren, you did it to Me. (Mt. 25:40).

Here are 5 Catholic disciplines recommended by Our Lady. Might we adopt some or all of these, to help us deepen our interior life so we can indeed share Christ with others?

Scripture / Eucharist / Rosary / Fasting / Confession  
(Daily Reading) / (Every Sunday) / (Daily) / (Twice weekly) / (Monthly)

St. John of God, St. Camillus de Lellis, Bl. Hanna Chrzanowska, RN, Pray for us.





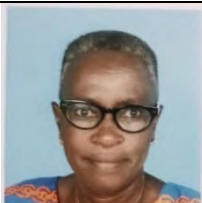
## From the Statutes Committee

### Statutes, Standing Orders & Elections

#### Executive Board Elections 2026-2030

Nominations for the CICIAMS Executive Board will be requested in early 2026. Open positions are:

- Secretary General
- Ecclesiastical Assistant
- President, CICIAMS Africa Region
- Chair, Family Committee
- Chair, Statutes Committee



*Grace Thirikwa, RN, RM  
Chair, Statutes Committee*

As an international association, CICIAMS strives to maintain international representation on the Executive Board with 2-4 members from each region serving on the 15-member board. The region/country of origin for the current CICIAMS Executive Board members is as follows. The red number in parentheses indicates the country of the current officer in the position for which elections are being held.

- Africa - 6 (1-Eswatini, 2-Kenya (1), 3-Nigeria (2))
- Asia – 3 (2-Japan (1), 1-Bangladesh)
- Europe – 3 (1-United Kingdom, 1-Italy, 1-The Netherlands)
- Pan America – 3 (3-U.S.A.(1))

Region Presidents are elected by the nurses in the region in which they serve. Other than the President, CICIAMS Africa Region, the nominee may come from any CICIAMS region.

Statutes require the Executive Board to meet annually. This meeting is held in conjunction with the region congress that volunteers to host the General Council and Executive Board meetings and with the quadrennial world congress. On the other years, the Executive Board meets for two days in Rome. Due to limitations of the CICIAMS budget, Executive Board members have limited funds to pay for travel to the meetings.

Terms are 4 years. Officers may serve two terms, if elected to do so, and then must be off the Executive Board for one term unless they are elected to serve as International President. The International President may not serve again as International President and must be off the board 2 terms.

## From the Finance Committee

### Annual Subscriptions – June 30 each year

Thank you to the association whose subscriptions are current for 2025. Thank you also to the four individual members: 3 from Ireland and 1 from The Netherlands. Your support of CICIAMS is much appreciated.

Currently, CICIAMS subscriptions pay for our office in the Vatican (Palazzo San Calisto 16) and for the Executive Secretary, Micaela Osimani. There is approximately \$1000 remaining after these expense if all associations pay their annual dues.

If CICIAMS is to exist, if Catholic nurses across the world are to have an alliance of the National Associations and Guilds of Catholic Nurses, it is imperative that each association continue to pay annual subscriptions in a timely manner, that the Congresses make a profit and donations are received. We again thank all the association who have paid their subscriptions and humbly request those who haven't, to do so.



*Maria Murciano, RN  
Financial Mgr/Treasurer*

## From the CICIAMS Family Committee

### Infertility and Natural Family Planning Project

The CICIAMS Executive Board in collaboration with the CICIAMS Family Committee again submitted a grant to the Papal Foundation to train seven (7) nurses in Kenya in the 13-month Creighton Model FertilityCare System and NaProTechnology to assist couple and women with reproductive and procreative health challenges.

Since CICIAMS is an International Private Association of the Faithful, grant requests to the Papal Foundation must be submitted through His Excellency Archbishop Ettore Balestrero, Permanent Observer, Permanent Mission of the Holy See in Geneva and then the Vatican Secretariat of State. In 2025, with the assistance of the CICIAMS Executive Secretary in Rome, Micaela Osimani, Msgr. Riyyan C. Mendoza, Deputy Permanent Representative, Permanent Mission of the Holy See Geneva, and Msgr. Roberto Campisi, Assessor, Secretariat of State, the grant was successfully submitted to the Papal Foundation.

Please continue to pray for the favorable consideration of this grant. The grants are awarded in June 2026.



*Sr. Cecilia Adache, OSF  
Chair, CICIAMS Family  
Committee*

**LEGACY GIVING:** Families and individuals can leave a legacy/donate monies to fund the mission and aims of the International Catholic Committee of Nurses and Medico-Social Assistants by giving now or in your estate plans/will. Your good deeds here on earth can live on in the actions of nurses across the world. Consider supporting CICIAMS. For more information about financial ways of supporting CICIAMS, please contact the Secretary General at: [CICIAMSInternational12@gmail.com](mailto:CICIAMSInternational12@gmail.com)





## IN MEMORIA

Mary Ann Ojnik (formerly Sister Mary Gabriel, SJSM)

April 2, 1959 – September 5, 2025

A member of the Diocese of Cleveland Sodality of Catholic Nurses, an association of the National Association of Catholic Nurses, U.S.A., Mary Ann Ojnik (formerly Sister Mary Gabriel, SJSM), age 66, passed on September 5th, 2025, the first Friday of the month at 4:48 pm at Ohman Family Living in Blossom, Ohio, USA.

Mary Ann was one of five founding members of the Diocese of Cleveland Sodality of Catholic Nurses. She is pictured attending the White Mass (Holy Sacrifice of the Mass offered for healthcare workers) with Sodality President Clarice DeJesus where, in 2018, His



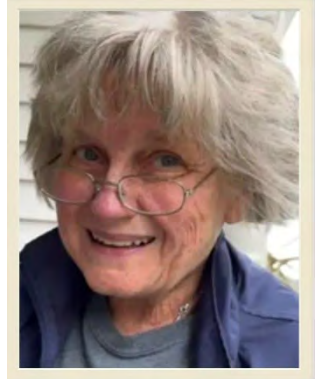
Excellency Nelson Perez, Bishop of the Diocese of Cleveland (now Archbishop of the Archdiocese of Philadelphia), blessed rosaries and pictures of the Sodality's patron: Our Lady of Perpetual Help, Pope St. John Paul and Blessed Hanna Chrzanowska, RN.

Mary Ann received her initial registered nursing training at St. Alexis Hospital School of Nursing in Cleveland, Ohio in September 1982. She earned a Bachelor of Science in Nursing from Indiana Wesleyan University in 2010. After earning her nursing degree, Mary Ann was a former member of the sisters of St. Joseph, St. Mark at

Mount St. Joseph in Euclid, Ohio where she was the Director of Nursing. She also worked as a Psychiatric nurse at University Hospital main campus, University Hospitals Richmond Medical Center, Hospice of the Western Reserve, and as a case manager at Tripoint Medical Center in Concord, Ohio. Her favorite nursing specialty was psychiatric nursing.

Mary Ann was proud of her Slovenian heritage as a member of St. Mary of the Assumption Church in Collinwood, Ohio, USA.

The Northeast Ohio Nurse Honor Guard served at the Mass of Christian Burial which was held on Saturday September 13, 2025 at 10 AM at St. Mary of the Assumption Church, 15519 Holmes Ave. in Cleveland, Ohio, USA. Mary Ann was buried at All Souls Cemetery in Chardon, Ohio, USA.



Mary Ann Ojnik  
2 April 1959 - 5 Sep 2025







## Calendar of Events

-----2025 – Jubilee Year-----  
**“Pilgrims of Hope”**

- 58<sup>th</sup> World Day of Peace (Vatican) – 1 Jan
- Word of God Sunday (Vatican) - 26Jan  
*“I hope in your Word”* (Psalm 119:74)
- 72<sup>nd</sup> World Leprosy Day – 26 Jan 2025
- 6<sup>th</sup> World NTD (Neglected Tropical Diseases) Day,  
 30 January 2025
- 33<sup>rd</sup> World Day of the Sick-11Feb2025 (Vatican)
- 18<sup>th</sup> World Rare Disease Day – 28 Feb 2025
- World Water Day – 22 Mar 2025 (UN est. 1993 Goal  
 #6: water and sanitation for all by 2030). Vatican  
 DPIHD project: WASH (Water, Sanitation & Hygiene)  
 to all Catholic healthcare facilities.
- **CICIAMS Executive Board Meeting 3 & 4 Apr2025**
- Jubilee of the Sick and Health Care Workers (Vatican)  
 5-6April2025 – Pope Francis addressed the faithful
- World Health Day (est. by the 1<sup>st</sup> World Health  
 Assembly in 1948) – 7 April 2025
- **Repose of the Soul of His Holiness Pope  
 Francis, 21 April 2025, 7:35am**
- International Day of the Midwife, 5 May 2025
- **HABEMUS PAPAM!!! 8 May 2025**  
**“Peace be with you all!” Pope Leo XIV**
- International Nurses Day – Monday, 12 May 2025
- 38<sup>th</sup> World No Tobacco Day (WHO) – 31May2025
- 2025 – DLFL Meeting with the Moderators of  
 Associations of the Faithful, Ecclesial Movements and  
 New Communities, 4-5 June 2025 (Wed/Th) at Aula  
 Nuova of the Synod, Vatican City
- World Refugee Day (UN) – 20 June 2025
- International Day against Drug Abuse and Illicit  
 Trafficking (UN est. 1989), 26 June 2025
- 5<sup>th</sup> World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly 27 July  
 2025 (4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of July, close to the feast of Sts. Joachim and  
 Anne, the grandparents of Jesus) *“Blessed are those who have not  
 lost hope.”* (cf. Sir 14, 2). (Vatican)
- World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation. Theme:  
*“Seeds of Peace and Hope”* – 1 Sept 2025 (Vatican)
- International Day of Peace–21Sep2025 (UN est. 1981)
- 111<sup>st</sup> World Day of Migrants and Refugees (WDMR),  
 28Sep2025 (Vatican est. 1914)
- World Mental Health Day, 10 Oct 2025 (WHO, 1992)
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Congress of the Pastoral Care of the Elderly  
 sponsored by DLFL – 2-5 Oct 2025
- 40<sup>th</sup> World Youth Day (diocesan celebrations), *“You  
 also are my witnesses, because you have been with me”*  
*John 15:27* (Vatican), 23Nov2025
- 8<sup>th</sup> World Day of the Poor (Vatican est 2017), 16Nov25

- 2025 CINGO (Catholic Inspired NGOs), 25 & 26  
 Nov. Theme: *Pilgrims of Hope: For the promotion of  
 human dignity, the Common Good and Peace*
- **2026 – CICIAMS XXII World Congress, Thailand**
  - 9Nov2026-CICIAM Executive Board Meeting
  - 10Nov2026 CICIAMS General Council Meeting
  - 11-13Nov2026 CICIAMS XXII World Congress  
[www.ciciams2026.com](http://www.ciciams2026.com); [info@ciciams2026.com](mailto:info@ciciams2026.com)
- 2026 – 41<sup>st</sup> World Youth Day (diocesan celebrations),  
*“You also are my witnesses, because you have been  
 with me” John 15:27* (Vatican), 22Nov2026
- 2027 – 42<sup>nd</sup> World Youth Day, Seoul, South Korea.  
 Theme: *“Take courage! I have overcome the world!”*  
 Jn 16:33
- **2028 April – CICIAMS Europe Region meeting  
 hosting Executive Board and General Council  
 Meetings, Krakow, Poland;** 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the  
 meeting in Basil, Switzerland to establish an International  
 Nurses organization. 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of beatification of  
 Blessed Hanna Chrzanowska, RN

## CICIAMS Official Documents & Links

CICIAMS 2023 Statutes & Standing Orders:

<http://www.ciciams.org/ciciamsreports.html>

CICIAMS Ethics Guidelines and Principles of Practices  
 for Catholic Nurses:

[www.ciciams.org/ethicscommittee.html](http://www.ciciams.org/ethicscommittee.html)



## CICIAMS Mission

§ 1. CICIAMS Mission Statement: Informed by  
 the moral and social teachings of the Church, CICIAMS is  
 committed to the following:

- Giving Christian witness in our lives through guiding  
 and supporting Healthcare workers internationally
- Developing a positive vision of life from conception to  
 death
- Representing Christian and professional values in our  
 work with other national and international associations
- Coordinating the work of member association in their  
 efforts to evangelize the ethos and ideals of the nursing  
 profession
- Promoting the initiation of and participation in  
 professional research and development towards the  
 achievement of optimum care and wellbeing
- Respecting the religious convictions of others and  
 accepting their rights to practice their beliefs.

Send articles, photographs and information to

[CICIAMSInternational12@gmail.com](mailto:CICIAMSInternational12@gmail.com)

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