



THE CANADIAN CONFERENCE OF CATHOLIC BISHOPS HORIZONS OF HOPE FOR THE PALLIATIVE CARE APPROACH



OBJECTIVE: To bring the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops' (CCCB's) Horizons of Hope (HOH) modules to parishes that have not yet had the opportunity to experience it. Utilizing a hybrid presentation from St John Fisher Parish, Brampton, Ontario with the original presenters, The Catholic Women's League's councils have an opportunity to assist their Spiritual Advisors to journey with interested parishioners in a Zoom friendly hall to explore the truth about Palliative Care (PC).

RATIONALE: The CCCB & Pontifical Academy for Life (PAL) Palliative Care Symposium recommended that we: "Expand communication, education, and advocacy efforts regarding early and comprehensive palliative care to grassroots organizations, such as schools and parishes (via I.E., the CCCB Horizons of Hope: A Toolkit for Catholic Parishes on Palliative Care") <https://www.cccb.ca/faith-moral-issues/suffering-and-end-of-life/horizons-of-hope-a-toolkit-for-catholic-parishes-on-palliative-care/>

CONTENT: Those in leadership for the evening, are expected to download the facilitators manual from the toolkit and familiarize themselves with the four PC modules. If joining by Zoom you will be expected to manage reflection/discussion periods. Content explores PC from a theological and medical perspective with a different focus for each of the four days:
Day 1 - Module 1 – May 6, 2025 7:00pm - Understanding
Day 2 - Module 2 – May 7, 2025 7:00pm - Discerning and making decisions
Day 3 - Module 3 – May 13, 2025 7:00pm - Accompanying
Day 4 - Module 4 – May 14, 2025 7:00pm - Supporting and integrating

OPPORTUNITIES FOR EACH STANDING COMMITTEE CHAIR DURING NATIONAL HOSPICE / PALLIATIVE CARE WEEK:

Faith committee chairs (FCC): approach the pastor with the president to explain the invitation to participate through zoom in the running of the program by the original presenters. Additionally the FCC might:

- Download and share the 12 hrs. of Prayer for Palliative Care Kit, 2025 & plan HOH participation
- Participate as possible in each HOH module's scripture reading & reflection and discussion
- Explore the theological perspective (teachings of the Catholic Church) on each HOH topic with the participants

Service Committee Chair (SCC): works closely with the Pastor, CWL President and FCC to understand the specific needs for running the program in their parish. Additionally the SCC might:

- Acquire and strategically post the bulletin announcement and poster(s) to promote the HOH
- Organize and assist with the signup for registration
- Help to advocate for, decide upon and strategically set up the zoom friendly meeting place(s)
- Assist with hosting of the participants for each of the four module presentations

Social Justice Committee Chair (SJCC): also works closely with the pastor, the CWL president the FCC and the SCC to increase understanding of the need for the PC approach and to advocate for taking the HOH series. Additionally the SJCC might:

- Access pertinent updates related to roadblocks to providing the PC approach
- Participate in reflection and discussion sessions for each HOH module
- Consider pertinent resolution topic(s) that might assist in addressing awareness and access to the PC approach.

Registration: Consider journeying with us to bring 'Horizons of Hope' for a Palliative Care approach to the vulnerable by clicking the registration link on the accompanying poster. NB ** It is expected that those attending are committed to all four modules.

SAVE THE DATES: May 6th, & 7th, and May 13th, & 14th, 2025.

Shirley Christo

Horizons of Hope Facilitator
Life Member, Toronto Diocesan Council
Social Justice Committee Chair
St John Fisher Council
The Catholic Women's League of Canada