

INSPIRED TO SERVE

Director's Corner



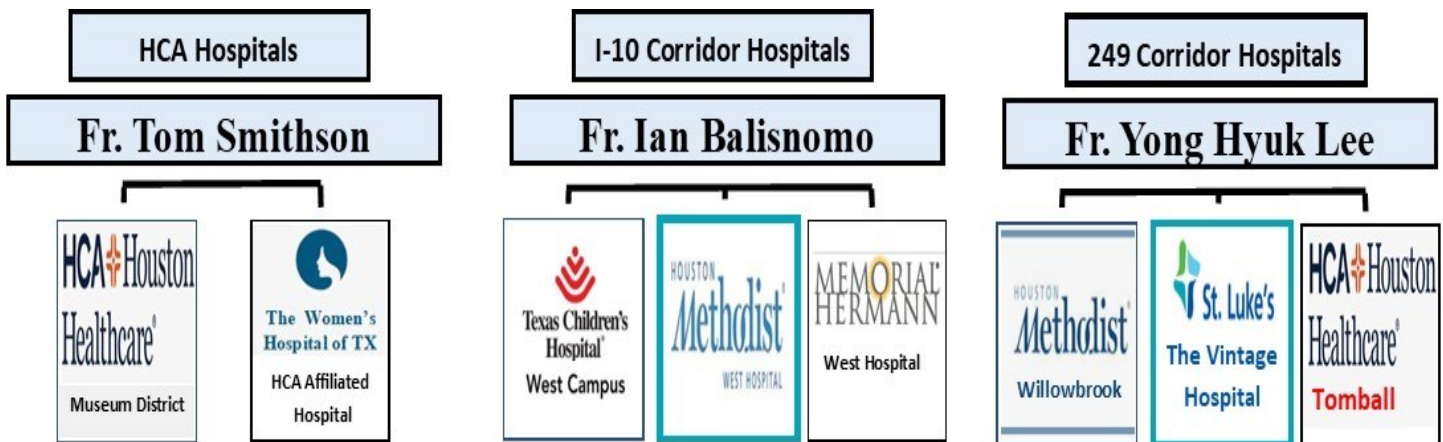
Romani Perera

Throughout the entire Easter season, we are reminded that Jesus has the power to transform. This timing offers us an opportunity to intertwine our physical rest with spiritual strengthening. We take solace in the beautiful *Knowledge* that our faith and health are gifts from God.

I want to thank you all for the amazing spirit of *Community* you bring to our hospital rooms and for keeping the spirit of the Catholic Chaplain Corps alive and thriving.

Season of Growth, **THANKS TO YOU!!!**

CCC has expanded to the following hospitals



Together, our shared values and vision will continue to lead us to *Greater Things*!

Wishing you a joyful Easter season!

Thank you for Donating to DSF Funds



The fulfillment of our mission is only possible thanks to the generous support of our Catholic Chaplain Corps community.

"Fulfilling our CCC model, additional DSF aid could provide more Lay Chaplains and Chaplain Priests to be dedicated at each institution or regional campuses. Money certainly isn't everything, but like most things, we need money in order for the CCC to operate. Anyone who gives to DSF is helping all of our loved ones in the Houston hospitals experience the pastoral and spiritual care they need."

Very Rev. Fr. Clark Sample

THE CHAT ROOM



Kendall Goetzinger, PV,
Conroe Regional

Each time I go to the hospital, I come away with the feeling

that there was at least one person God intended me to visit—that one person who, whether they realized it or not, was calling out to God and He was sending me to be His hands and feet. On this day, the

person was not a patient, but rather a patient's wife. After completing my rounds, my plan was to return to the Chaplain's office (where our tabernacle is located)

so that I could pray for the patients I visited that day. On my way to the office, I felt a prompting to go to the hospital chapel instead. When I was just about finished praying, I heard the chapel door open and then a sweet voice apologized for interrupting me. I replied that she was not interrupting me at all and introduced myself. Before I knew it, this lady's story unfolded to me. Her husband was in the ICU and in critical condition. We prayed, we cried, and we turned it all over to God. That day, my person was this beautiful woman whose love for her husband and trust in the Lord lead her to the chapel.

Lay Chaplain—Barbora Snodgrass



I am a native Slovakian and came to Texas almost four decades ago.

I am married with five children and eleven grandchildren. I am a member of Saint John the Evangelist Catholic Church in Baytown.

My journey towards Hospital Chaplaincy started by visiting people in the nursing homes with our young children through the Ministry of Legion of Mary. Later, I have become a volunteer at the Methodist Hospital in Baytown that further inspired me to pursue CPE training at the Baylor-Saint Luke's Hospital to become a Hospital Chaplain.

At the beginning of my studies at the UST and later



at the Saint Mary's Seminary, I was not sure how God will use my education to serve Him. After my visits with patients whether bringing them Holy Communion, offering a prayer or a listening, compassionate ear, I often experience the blessedness of the moment and feel that our Lord led me on my journey to a place of service where I need to be.

An essential part of Hospital Lay Chaplain's job is working with our volunteering pastoral visitors. It is a joy to work with such dedicated people, willing to bring the presence and the aroma of Christ to our patients. Without these volunteers, our services to our patients would be very limited.

I like to spend my free time with my family, friends and in the quiet of nature.



We are **THANKFUL** for **Mary's Chain of Love Ministry at Mary Queen Church** in Friendswood, made with care and prayer, shawls, blankets and hats are blessed and given to patients who are ill or struggling and who would welcome the warmth of love the shawls hold.

Newly Appointed Priest at Catholic Chaplain Corps

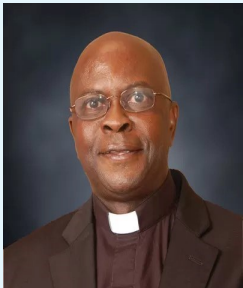
Fr. Yong Hyuk Lee



I am a priest of the Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston. I was ordained to the priesthood by the Archbishop Joseph Fiorenza in 2001. Since 2005, I have served as pastor of the parish until recently. Starting in February 2024, I serve as a hospital Chaplain priest at the hospitals near Highway 249 in northwest Houston.

I am originally from Korea and served in the U.S. Army for four years. I turn 60 this March. In Asian culture, 60 years marks one full cycle of life, and the 60th birthday is regarded as a very important point as the beginning of a new life cycle. I believe that the beginning of this hospital ministry will be a meaningful opportunity for me, providing me with a new life and experience as a priest. At the same time, I am very happy to be close to my parents, who are in their late 80s and live not far from the hospital where I will be ministering.

Fr. Augustine Asante



He is an ordained Catholic priest, who served at St. Anthony Catholic Church and Elementary School as pastor for twelve years in Columbus, Texas. He was ordained as a Catholic priest on 18th day of July 1998 at Goaso in the Catholic Diocese of Goaso in Ghana. After serving for ten years in the priesthood ministry in Ghana, I came to the USA for my Sabbatical leave. I attended UHV for his studies in counseling program and graduated with the degree of Master of Education Counseling on the 13th day of December 2013. Last year, I completed the Residency Fellowship in Chaplaincy at M.D. Anderson. I joined CCC on January 29, 2024 and serve as a hospital Chaplain.

Fr. Thomas Smithson



Besides this province ministry, Fr Smithson was a pastor of Corpus Christi, Houston, TX. I grew up in Albuquerque, NM and was a parishioner at the formerly SSS administered Saint Charles Borromeo. After studying for the seminary at Catholic Theological Union, Chicago, I was ordained in my home parish in 2001.

Fr. Thomas joined CCC January 29, 2024 and serving at HCA TX Woman's Hospital & HCA Houston.

ERD for Catholic Health Care Services Enrichment

Presenter: Dcn. David Garvis, PhD @ St. Dominic, January 24



Upon first hearing, the term “directives” may feel a bit off-putting, but Deacon Garvis quickly established that the ERDs is an eminently pastoral work. His presentation and a subsequent close reading of the document itself have served to nourish my identity and practice as a listening presence of the sick and suffering Hispanic families that I visit at Texas Children’s Hospital.

As a pastoral visitor I am called to be a mission-charged link in the chain of respect, love, and support that the Church offers members of the Mystical Body of Christ. The ERDs inspire me to “rejoice in the challenge to be Christ’s healing compassion in the world” while honoring the dignity of others through spiritual care.

Ellen Welsh, Pastoral Visitor,
TX Children's Hospital, TMC

PV Retreat @ Villa de Matel

March 1

Facilitator: Denice Foose, BCC, MBA

“The Resting in His Presence Retreat Provided a great opportunity to slow down and commune with our Lord. The retreat held at the gorgeous Villa De Matel has innumerable spaces to inspire prayer and quiet time with God.

I really enjoyed the various paintings and icons that allowed me to prayerfully reflect on Jesus’s life and how the Lord is speaking to my life. I also enjoyed taking in the beautiful outside scenery of giant trees and greenery. The retreat allowed me to listen in peaceful silence and be open to the movement of the Holy Spirit on my heart.”

Amanda Quiroz
CCC Regional Lay Coordinator



“This retreat provided an opportunity to set aside time to connect with my Lord and my God. My heart and mind was open to God’s ministering. It was a grace-filled, prayerful day.”

EeLin Golan , PV @
St Luke’s - Woodlands



Foundation Course Fall 2024

Instructor:

Rev. Theodore M. Smith, D.Min.

St. Anthony of Padua Church – The Woodlands

Aug 20, Sept 10, Oct 1, & 22

TIME: 10:00 am-1:00 pm

Tuesday Mornings

St. Dominic's Center TMC

Aug 22, Sept 12, Oct 3, & 24

TIME: 10:00 am-1:00 pm

Thursday Mornings

To know more about the

**Catholic Chaplain Corps or to attend the
Pastoral Visitors classes for 2024,**

Please scan this QR Code.



Zoom Seminar

Topic: Guide to Care for Pediatric Patients

**Date & Time: Tuesday, May 7th 2024 at
10:00 a. m. - 11:30 a.m.**

Facilitators: Courtney Webb, Memorial Hermann, Children's Chaplain Manager, Natalie Peters, TX Children's Spiritual Care Clinical Specialist, TMC & Kerry Bigler, TX Children's Staff Chaplain, the Woodlands

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85130957640?pwd=d1ovSWMvNG9RTUZSZ1pZOWhaNG5EZz09>

Meeting ID: 851 3095 7640

Passcode: 967223

Day of Centering Prayer

Denice Foose & Jeanette Easley

**Date & Time: Wednesday, June 19th
at 9:00 a.m. -3:00 p.m.**

Location: Villa De Matel

Registration: There is a maximum class size of 25 people; \$25 per person. You can pay directly to the RUAH Center on the day of Prayer by cash, check, debit, or credit card or you can pay by visiting the link [RUAH Donations](#).

Join us for a day given to the practice of presence, to surrender to the Divine Being in the company of a contemplative community and the natural beauty of the Villa De Matel grounds. Centering Prayer practice uses the methods taught by Fr. Thomas Keating, OCSO, or Contemplative Outreach, Ltd. Our retreat will include several periods of Centering Prayer, selected Thomas Keating resources, sharing, and silent and journal.

Spiritual Direction: is available for you Ruah Spirituality Center by telephone, online via Zoom or in person.

Contact: Denice Foose at 713-203-0783.