

To Our Parishioners who are patients in Skyridge Hospital, Parker Adventist Hospital or Castle Rock Adventist Hospital (including any non-hospital Hospice Facility)

Notice about requesting the Sacrament of the Sick or Last Rites (Viaticum) at these facilities.

None of the above hospitals currently employ a Roman Catholic Priest to visit, care or provide for the Sacramental Needs of the Roman Catholic patients. This applies to area hospices also.

The patient must register at the time of admission (either to the ER or the regular part of the Hospital) as Roman Catholic.

Hospitals and hospices due to HIPPA Regulations do not notify a patient's parish to let us know that either you or a loved one are in the hospital. They tend to call the parish only, if and when there is a specific request for the Sacrament of the Sick, Confessions or Last Rites (Viaticum).

Things that you should know about Pastoral Care for Roman Catholics at these area hospitals:

- **At Skyridge Hospital** only the Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion from Pax Christi Parish regularly visit the Roman Catholic patients in the Regular Hospital. Routinely, they will call the Main Chaplain or the On-Call Chaplain to determine if the patient would like to request a visit from a Priest for the Sacrament of the Sick, Confession or the Last Rites. At Skyridge Hospital, the Main Chaplain during the day or the On-Call Chaplain (if they are in the hospital) will only visit those in the ER, ICU, CCU or NICU.
- **Castle Rock Adventist** is currently seeking a new Main Chaplain. Routinely, they have several other chaplains assisting with non-Catholic patient needs. If you or your loved one need sacraments or a pastoral visit, you need to inform the Chaplain please. EMHC's from the St. Francis of Assisi Parish bring Holy Communion on a regular basis.

* Please note that at the above Hospitals - the On-Call Chaplain at night generally resides at their own, private home and outside of making a telephone call for a Roman Catholic Priest – they do not respond out, if there is a call for a Roman Catholic Priest.

- **Parker Adventist** has a Main Chaplain and On-Call Chaplains similar to what is described above. The EMHC's from Ave Maria Parish routinely visit the hospital on a regular basis.

Please request the Sacrament of the Sick, The Sacrament of Penance and /or Last Rites (Viaticum) through the Hospital or Hospice Chaplain (as they record the Hospital visit by a Priest). This also helps to prevent our parish priests and offices from receiving multiple calls from several family members who do not know that their loved one has already received or requested the Sacraments.

Please note that there are specific times when the priest of the OLV Parish is not available:

Saturday 3:30 p.m. until 6:30 p.m. (Confessions and Mass here)

Sunday 6 a.m. until 1:30 p.m. (Masses and RE Classes here)

Additionally, please note that there are other times when parish or regional priests are not available (such as the annual Diocesan Priest Retreat or Diocesan Priest Leadership Meetings). In closing, **please** do not wait until the last moments of your loved one's life to call for a priest. It is a priest's ordained ministry to walk with their parishioners who are sick, suffering and make their transition back to God. Working together helps to provide the best pastoral care possible.