

## Summary of Interfaith Pastoral Care Services at Fox Chase Cancer Center

### Catholic Patients

**Communion** (the Holy Eucharist) is available on weekdays (after 1 p.m.) and every Sunday (after 9 a.m.) to **Catholic** inpatients who are able to receive the sacrament. It is administered **as per specific patient/family request**, or by **referral** from staff. Likewise, a priest is available for additional sacramental support every weekday afternoon after 3 p.m. Catholic patients/family members can call **215-214-1753** at anytime and leave a message on the Visiting Clergy Voice Mail. They are asked to state the patient's name, room and bed number, and particular request for sacramental ministry. **A Catholic priest is always on-call 24-7 for matters of urgency.** The Nursing or Pastoral Care Staff, who then page the priest who is scheduled for the on-call at that particular time, facilitates the specific request.

### Patients of Christian/Protestant Denominations and Interfaith Traditions

The Pastoral Care Service of FCCC supports the work of its neighboring clergy by its membership in the [Fox Chase Ministerium of Churches](#). In addition, the Pastoral Care Department serves as a liaison between the hospital and all local interfaith clergy. Contact will be made with a representative of any particular faith or denomination as requested by the patient and/or family by calling **215-728 2944**.

### Jewish Patients

A Rabbi from the [Jewish Chaplaincy Service of Greater Philadelphia](#) visits Jewish patients weekly, and through specific patient/family request. Also, a para-chaplain from the same organization comes to offer Challah every Friday afternoon (with the exception of certain Holidays) to Jewish patients/families, as a welcoming ritual of the coming Sabbath. All patient and family requests of a non-urgent nature involving Jewish clergy should be referred to FCCC Pastoral Care Staff, or a voice mail message left on **215-728-2944**. This information will be shared with the Jewish chaplain when he/she makes their weekly visitation, Monday through Friday. In the event of a matter of urgency at any time, if a Rabbi is specifically requested, the hospital operator should be called to have the FCCC chaplain-on-call paged. The hospital chaplain will then contact the first person available from a pool of several on-call Jewish clergy.