***Pastor Letter & Bulletin Template***

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| (insert diocesan logo here) | (insert parish logo here) |

*“May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace, so that you may abound
 in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit” (Romans 15:13)*

Dear Parish Ministry Leaders,

In 2015, the California Bishops and Catholic healthcare systems developed the Caring for the Whole Person Initiative (CWPI), which seeks to ensure that parishioners and family members are accompanied, loved, and supported during serious illness, their end-of-life journey and/or other times when medical and spiritual support is needed. The initiative was announced to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ parishes by Bishop \_\_\_\_\_ in \_\_\_\_\_\_.

Parish representatives received diocesan training from the curriculum developed by Catholic theologians, ethicists, and health care providers. (Trained parish leader) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and (trained parish leader) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ represented (parish name)\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ as (role)\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. Included in training topics were palliative care, hospice care, Catholic moral teachings on end-of-life care, advance care planning, legal decision-making, caregiving, and grief support. It’s likely parishioners involved in ministries such as Eucharistic Ministry to the Homebound, Stephens Ministry, Outreach to the Sick, Social Justice Ministry, Hospital Ministry, Bereavement Ministry, and other ministries would be involved in providing some of the Caring for the Whole Person (CWP) services.

Our parish CWP Ministry is still in its formative stages [and attached are some documents with more details]. The goals are broad because each parishioner requesting our help may have unique needs. The main goals of the CWPI are:

1. To establish a supportive community for parishioners and their families
2. To provide community support and resource referrals to families with loved ones who are suffering, be it physical or spiritual

Thanks to the training and ministry development offered by the CWPI, our CWP Ministry will be available to meet the needs of our parish community. Through this ministry, we strive to provide a listening ear and lend a hand. We want to be there when needed. If the Caring for the Whole Person Initiative touches your heart, please pray, read the literature, and contact either \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ or \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ so they can provide you with more information about this ministry opportunity.

//PASTOR NAME AND SIGNATURE