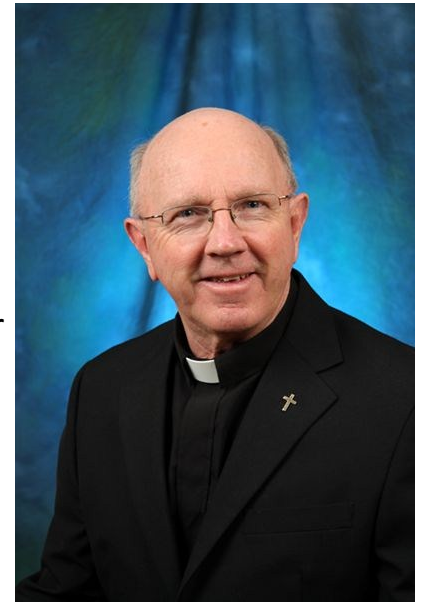


## PERFORMANCE CITATION AWARD PRESENTED TO REV. DR. MONTE PETERS

**At the 25<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference of the Catholic Health Association of New Brunswick, Rev. Dr. Monte Peters was awarded the Performance Citation Award in recognition of his outstanding service to the community in the field of health care.**

Father Monte Peters is a special person who cares deeply about all people, not just as a Priest, which is his life's calling, but as someone who sees wrongs in our world and who does whatever he can to help make things better for those who find themselves in difficult situations. He has been empowering people to help those less fortunate and to help those who are having difficulties whether it be in health, finances or just loneliness.

He does not hold back when given the chance to try new things when it may benefit others. He is an advocate for raising awareness about violence against women and has given talks on this subject to many groups.



A native of Saint John, Father Peters has a lengthy history of involvement with the ministry. He went to UNB in 1969 as a student in Education, having already received his bachelor's degree at St. Francis Xavier University and a Bachelor of Theology at Laval.

He served in the University of New Brunswick Campus Ministry for almost 25 years and was bestowed an honorary Doctor of Letters from the University. His response to this award was one of modesty, "I've always regarded my presence on campus to be that of a guest and understood my role to be that of a servant to all who come to the University." He was appointed Pastor of Our Lady Of Fatima Parish in Fredericton in 1994 and St. Anthony's Parish in Fredericton in 2004. He also served as the city of Fredericton's Chaplain for a number of years.

Father Peters does not speak of the people he helps, the crises he has defused for the lives he has touched. We would describe Father Peters as someone who preaches and practices forgiveness and compassion for all. He is a person who shows unselfish dedication to others and believes in promoting inclusiveness of all communities. On a more personal level, Father Peters is a person who dislikes stuffiness and formality. His secret weapon has always been his sense of humour, an impish smile and an infectious giggle. He wades into the toughest situation with a joke on his lips and a God-given gift to put people at ease. When you speak to the people who know him, they all say the same thing: "he is there for you. He's one-of-a-kind. He's an incredible role model. He's completely unselfish.

While at St. Anthony's he has achieved many things:

- ◇ Established child daycare services for the community at large, through the lease of church facilities.
- ◇ Established a seniors' elite 90's club, to provide activities for seniors and recognize their invaluable living contributions.
- ◇ Established a shawl ministry to comfort the sick.
- ◇ Established fundraisers to support programming for violence against women.
- ◇ Established a parish nursing ministry program, which has become recognized nationally as was the first, in the Province, to receive Federal and Provincial funding support and recognition for its service to the community.
- ◇ Support for a community wellness fair in October 2011.
- ◇ Has assisted in the development and implementation of the federally funded new horizon for seniors program.
- ◇ He is extremely passionate about providing education to the community such as lunch and learn sessions where guest speakers are invited to give talks about pressing health concerns, especially for seniors.
- ◇ He has proposed to the Provincial Government, a plan to construct a 50 unit senior's complex, on church property, to accommodate the needs of the community for affordable housing, as well as current parishioners.
- ◇ Established a soccer program in support of his commitment to youth in the community.

He is a great supporter of using the skills and talents of his parishioners to fulfill their medical, psychological and spiritual needs. He has helped through the parish nursing program to improve the life of seniors and parishioners with physical and intellectual disabilities, as well as mental health issues.

Father Monte is a very creative Priest. His support for the Parish Nursing movement and his monthly mass for those with cancer, as well as what he does for young people are examples of this creativity.

Father Monte is truly a devoted person who is highly respected, as a Priest, a professional and most importantly as a person, by his parishioners, his colleagues, and people he has become acquainted with in the community.

It is with extreme pleasure that the Catholic Health Association of New Brunswick bestows its 2012 Performance Citation Award to Rev. Dr. Monte Peters.