

## Roles/Functions of a Parish Nurse

Parish nurses function within the parameters of seven (7) major roles. These are:

1. **Health Educator** – focusing on a variety of educational activities for all ages that explore the relationship between values, attitudes, lifestyle, faith and health.
2. **Personal Health Counselor** – assisting individuals to deal with health issues and problems and may include hospital, home, nursing home, etc. visits.
3. **Referral Agent** – providing congregational and community resources for healing and wellness.
4. **Health Advocate** – encouraging all systems (congregant, faith community, primary health resources) to find the best solution for healing and wholeness - body, mind and spirit.
5. **Facilitator of Volunteers** – recruiting and coordinating resources within the faith community to serve in its various health ministries.
6. **Developer of Support Groups** – facilitating the development of support groups to meet member needs and those of the external community.
7. **Integrator of Faith and Health** – seeking, in all activities and contacts, to promote the understanding of the relationship between faith and health.