



15<sup>th</sup> Consultation  
European Network of Health Care Chaplaincy  
Belgium, Blankenberge, 15-19 June 2018



CONSULTATION THEME

*Nurturing Spirituality in Healthcare Chaplaincy*

The theme of the consultation is nurturing spirituality in healthcare chaplaincy.

For a good understanding of spirituality, we follow the definition of Puchalski (2014):  
“Spirituality is the dynamic dimension of human life that relates to the way persons (individual and community) experience, express and/or seek meaning, purpose and transcendence, and the way they connect to the moment, to self, to others, to nature, to the significant, and/or the sacred.”

Nurturing means that we develop, cultivate and enhance spirituality in healthcare chaplaincy. This is vital for our chaplaincy. To clarify this, we use the image of the tree, the emblem of the consultation. The tree is the whole of healthcare chaplaincy. The leaves and fruits of the tree are the outcome of our work. We can only achieve these fruits if we are well nurtured. This is done by the roots of the tree: they provide nutrition, motivation and inspiration. Without good roots, without spirituality, the tree cannot bear good fruit and healthcare chaplaincy is not powerful, real and authentic. The purpose of the consultation is to give nutrition to our chaplaincy through spirituality.

