

Exhibit 48

Bishop's Statement



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**BISHOP LIBASCI STATEMENT DURING CATHOLIC MEDICAL CENTER/HCA
PUBLIC LISTENING SESSION**

MANCHESTER, NH – On May 29, the Most Reverend Peter A. Libasci, D.D, Bishop of Manchester, the Roman Catholic Church in New Hampshire, made the following statement during the public Listening Session regarding the proposed transaction between Catholic Medical Center (CMC) and HCA Healthcare, held at the Manchester Public Health Department.

“Good afternoon, everyone. Thank you so much for coming, and thank you, Alex [Walker, President and CEO, CMC], for your presentation.

With us at this most important listening session are members of the Board of Directors of Catholic Medical Center as well as members of the Administration and Staff of CMC, representatives of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Manchester, representatives of HCA and, very importantly, you, the members of the local community who share our commitment to continue to provide the uninterrupted presence and ministry of Catholic Medical Center.

Throughout these many months I have witnessed and been personally engaged in the process which Alex has just described for you. It has been informed by the several previous attempts to engage with a reliable partner – attempts that for one reason or another were ultimately unsuccessful. Informed by those experiences, we approached this most recent effort with no small amount of research and candor.

Being clear at the outset as to our steadfast commitment to the Catholicity of the hospital’s ongoing ministry, the hallmark of a partnership must not merely tolerate, but respect, ensure, revere and pursue a course that would continue to make Catholic Medical Center true to her history, the expectation of her local community, and in accord with the expectations of the Roman Catholic Bishop of Manchester.

Therefore, when HCA demonstrated its accomplishment of this particular requirement which is pertinent to my role as the Bishop of this Diocese, I directed our own leadership comprised of

members of Administration, Medical Staff, Board of Directors, the bishop's delegate for Catholic Healthcare and a member of the clergy of our diocese to go and visit and make pointed inquiries and observations at Mercy Medical Center in Miami where this partnership maintains a strong Catholic identity, practice and adherence to the Ethical Religious Directives of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops. Likewise, I directed them to arrange a meeting with the offices of the Archdiocese of Miami for an evaluation of the once not-for-profit Mercy Hospital, now operating as a for-profit hospital through its partnership with HCA, and its ongoing functioning as an identifiable and undeniably Catholic institution. The strength of this statement cannot be underestimated. The responses to the group's questions were notably on point and with high confidence and praise.

Be assured: the required and necessary role of guardian of Catholic Identity is being fulfilled, at said Mercy Hospital in Miami, by a religious sister whose presence is strong and whose projects, initiatives and voice are given affirmative response equal to sister's energetically clear proposals. In our case, such a person is given a role and title of Vice President. Chosen by and in union with the Bishop of Manchester, this person provides the means and forum for the continued integrity of the name and identity of Catholic Medical Center. Understand, then, that HCA is making a statement not of mere toleration of Catholicism, but, to respect, revere, ensure and pursue the adherence to our Catholic Faith and its continued presence at CMC.

Who was it who once said, "It is not good for man to be alone. Let us make a suitable partner for the man." Many would like to see CMC continue as it has for the last fifty years. But it is no longer good, nor is it possible, to stand alone in the face of what is happening throughout the field of healthcare. In order for CMC to be born fifty years ago, the two Catholic hospitals of Notre Dame and Sacred Heart were brought together – amid very great outcry, as I am told. That joint relationship was able to afford fifty more years of life. Now, the landscape has become all the more challenging, not only financially, but also in science, technique and bioethics.

Now, it is neither good, nor possible, to stand alone and a suitable partner approaches. In order to go forward as a Catholic hospital located in the downtown area on the west side of Manchester, those challenges must be met.

I would now like to bring your attention to our MC and those who are here to respond to questions. As I retire to the rear of the room to listen so that I can bring your input to my advisors, I thank you again for your presence and I thank you for your attention.

May the peace and blessing of Almighty God the Father+ the Son+ and the Holy Spirit+ descend upon all here present and remain with you forever and ever. Amen."

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The Diocese of Manchester is the Roman Catholic Church in New Hampshire, serving the needs of nearly 210,000 Catholics. For more information, please visit www.catholicnh.org/overview.