

Recovery Ministry
to
Separated and Divorced
Catholics



'You are not alone'



The Lord is your guard and your shade ... Psalm 121

Divorce Recovery Ministry
(213) 637-7249
jmonell@la-archdiocese.org

2019

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to
Separated and Divorced Catholics

Healing Together
By Will Limon

I've learned that loss creates space for something new. Though I often feel alone, I know I'm not. Others around me have experienced similar losses. We share a silent kinship that gives us the opportunity to build new bonds with each other.

I can share my emptiness and hurt by confiding in others who have experienced a loss. My unhappiness was created by the ending of a relationship. Building new, healthy friendships may be the best way to help me heal and become a healing force for others.

As I work to restore myself. I will share my process. Together we can reveal our unhappiness, free our anger, and let go of fear. United we can do what we cannot do alone. Heal from our loss by finding life again.

**IF YOU ARE SEPARATED OR DIVORCED,
THE CHURCH CARES ABOUT YOU!**

Divorce has touched nearly every Catholic family in America. It is a painful process that affects every facet of human existence, a process in which many are hurt.

Separation and divorce are difficult and usually cause grievous losses, yet this can be a time filled with potential for vibrant new growth and responsiveness to grace.

The Synod Fathers noted that "special discernment is indispensable for the pastoral care of those who are separated, divorced or abandoned. Respect needs to be shown especially for the sufferings of those who have unjustly endured separation, divorce or abandonment, or those who have been forced by maltreatment from a husband or a wife to interrupt their life together."

- Pope Francis, AMORIS LAETITIA (The Joy of Love), Chapter 242

The mission of the Office of Family Life is to serve families in all ways. Separated and Divorced Catholics and their children are an integral part of who we are as family. Therefore, we urge everyone involved in pastoral ministry to support, in a visible and caring way, all those in need of healing and recovery from a separation or divorce. The Office of Family Life is here to assist you by providing training and resources.

Julie Auzenne

Separated and Divorced Consultant, Office of Family Life

(213) 637-7249

jmonell@la-archdiocese.org

website: www.la-archdiocese.org/org/familylife/divorce

SEPARATED & DIVORCED CATHOLIC MINISTRY

VISION:

A faith family where Catholics suffering from broken relationships will find a welcome home throughout the Archdiocese.

MISSION:

To be a Catholic Faith resource of spiritual help for families that are hurting because of broken relationships.

PHILOSOPHY:

We are a concerned people on a healing journey toward healthy relationships, who are available as sources of strength for others. While we are working hard at getting our "houses in order," we also seek the fulfillment of Jesus' promise: "that my joy may be yours, and your joy may be complete." Our energies are directed toward supporting, helping, enabling and empowering each other in that journey. We wish to belong fully to our Faith Family, to be a gift that inspires and a lesson by which others may learn and grow.

GOALS:

Our goal is to become a source of spiritual strength and wisdom; to process the grief; to ease the pain; to give comfort and hope to those recovering from separation, divorce or death of a spouse.

Spiritual Director:

Fr. Patrick J. Hill, MA, JCL, DMin
(213) 637-7889

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS ABOUT ANNULMENTS

What is an annulment?

The term "annulment" is a misnomer because the Church does not undo or erase a marriage bond. Rather the Church issues declarations of nullity when it discovers that the parties were not truly joined by God and hence a full spiritual sacramental marriage as understood by the Church was not present.

Why should I get a Declaration of Nullity?

People who have received a declaration of nullity have expressed feelings of relief, wholeness and healing as a result of the process. For those who have remarried outside of the Church, a Declaration of Nullity provides the opportunity to exercise all the privileges, receive the grace the sacraments offer and re-establish a closer bond with the community. This is a process of understanding, healing, and of making the justice and compassion of God more available to the divorced person.

How can I learn about a Declaration of Nullity?

You may approach your pastor, priest/deacon or the layperson in your parish who has been trained in the process. If you encounter difficulties at your own parish, you may seek a referral directly from the Tribunal.

How long does the marriage nullity process usually take?

The length of time varies from diocese to diocese, depending on the number of pending petitions, the cooperation of involved parties and the specific circumstances.

Can anybody petition?

All have a right to petition. Whether that petition can be granted depends on the existence of recognized grounds for nullity and proof of same.

Metropolitan Marriage Tribunal
(213) 637-7245
marriagetribeunal@la-archdiocese.org

FACTS REGARDING DIVORCE

AND

THE CATHOLIC CHURCH

Separated/Divorced Catholics who have not remarried outside of the Church may receive the Sacraments of Eucharist and Reconciliation and participate fully in parish life.

Divorced/Remarried Catholics whether remarried in the Church or not, are not excommunicated from the Church and are welcome to attend Mass and to participate in their parish activities.

CATHOLIC DIVORCE MINISTRY

www.nacsd.org

CDM's Mission Statement

CDM is dedicated to developing and expanding a peer ministry offering compassion, encouragement, support, and education to families who experience separation and divorce while affirming Catholic teaching and tradition.

Region 14 Representative:

- Julie Auzenne, RN, MSN/MPH
region14@nacsd.org

PEER TO PEER SUPPORT GROUPS

These groups provide:

- Hope that there is a life after divorce
- A place to come and share your story
- Help in how a once-married person functions within the Church
- Available resources to help in the process of recovery
- A place to come and learn from others
- A place to further the spiritual, emotional, educational and social welfare of Separated and Divorced Catholics and their families.



ON GOING SUPPORT GROUPS

OUR LADY OF THE ANGELS REGION:

••••• Wednesdays •••••

PHOENIX MINISTRY

St. Monica, Santa Monica (Meets on Wednesday 7:00pm-8:30pm)
<http://stmonica.net/ministries/pastoral-care/phoenix-ministry-divorce-support>

- Delis Alejandro (310) 566-1530
delis@stmonica.net
- Steven Ministry (310) 566-1575

Please call for schedule

SANTA BARBARA REGION:

NEW HORIZONS

St. Louis de Montfort, Santa Maria (please call for Dates & Time)

- Jerry Kipper (895) 938-5338

Padre Serra Parish, Camarillo

(1st & 3rd Tuesday,

San Fernando Room

7:00 - 8:30pm)

- Jett Clyne jettclyne@gmail.com
- Teresa Runyon (805) 482-6417, ext, 322
teresa@padreserra.org

SAN FERNANDO REGION:

..... Tuesdays

NEW LEAF

St. Joseph the Worker, Canoga Park (2nd & 4th Tuesdays,
Parish Center 7:30pm)

- Bill Sparks (818) 883-7810
bill@sjwchurch.com

..... Thursdays

Our Lady of Perpetual Help, Newhall (1st & 3rd Thursdays)

Conference Center, Room 2

- Joyce L'Heureux (661) 296-7622
cresthome@att.net
- Bob Maryon (661) 225-1452

..... Fridays

St. John Eudes, Chatsworth (2nd & 4th Fridays at 8:00 pm)

Grill Hall, Room C

- Kathy Tickner (818) 349-9335

Separated & Divorced Ministry's Annual Gathering

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

GOOD FRIDAY, APRIL 10, 2020

6:30pm

(Meet at the top of the driveway)

at

Mater Dolorosa Passionist Retreat Center

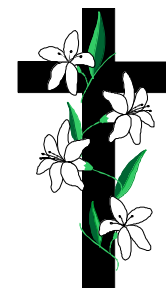
700 N. Sunnyside Avenue

Sierra Madre, CA 91024

For information contact:

Julie (213) 637-7249

jmonell@la-archdiocese.org



BEGINNING EXPERIENCE



The Beginning Experience is a weekend program designed to help widowed, separated and divorced persons make a new beginning in life. Although the program was designed by and for Catholics, it is open to persons of all faiths. There is now also Beginning Experience designed for young people.

Contact Persons:

- President:*
- Peg Setti (818) 767-1007
- Registrar:*
- Peg Setti (818) 767-1007
 - Brenda Mikhail (818) 352-5265
- Spanish:*
- Maria Rojas (310) 365-0186

Email: beginningexp.losangeles@gmail.com

DATES FOR BEGINNING EXPERIENCE WEEKENDS:

(All retreats are held at Holy Spirit Retreat Center, Encino, CA)

August 16 -18, 2019

October 4 - 6, 2019

March 20-22, 2020

September 11-13, 2020

CONTINUED BEGINNINGS

Six (6) Week Session

Follow-up Post Beginning Experience Weekends

SAN GABRIEL REGION:

••••• Mondays •••••

HEALING HEARTS

Immaculate Conception, Monrovia (*1st & 3rd Mondays 7:00 pm*)
Room 1A

- Julie Auzenne (626) 357-6508
jmonell@la-archdiocese.org

••••• Thursdays •••••

Holy Family, South Pasadena (*2nd & 4th Thursdays,*
7:30 - 9:00pm)

Cardinal Manning Room

<http://holyfamily.org/2247/divorced-and-separated-support-group/>

- Holy Family Pastoral Center (626) 799-8908
- Terri Lynn Doubet (818) 729-0577
- Charley Cerutti cpcjr2@gmail.com

SAN PEDRO REGION:

..... Mondays

- St. Margaret Mary Alacoque, Lomita (1st & 3rd Mondays,
7:00pm - 8:30pm)
- Judith Garvey at Parish Office (310) 326-3364
 - Marcella Keyes (310) 483-8169

..... Tuesdays

- American Martyrs, Manhattan Beach (1st & 3rd Tuesdays,
7:00pm - 9:00pm)
- Jenny Attanasio (310) 545-5651
jattanasio@americanmartyrs.org

- St. John Fisher, Rancho Palos Verdes (2nd & 4th Tuesdays,
7:00pm - 8:30pm)
- Cathy Alessandra (310) 283-5271
cathy@cathyalessandra.com

..... Thursdays

- Our Lady of Perpetual Help, Downey (Thursdays,
Spanish 7:00pm - 9:00pm)
- Maria Paredes (562) 397-6444
mariadp90241@me.com

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- St. Dominic Savio, Bellflower (please call for Dates & Time)
English and Spanish
- Maria Paredes (562) 397-6444
mariadp90241@me.com

Please call for schedule

RETREAT HOUSES

The following Retreat Houses may have annual weekends for separated and divorced persons:

- DePaul Evangelization Center
1105 Bluff Road
Montebello, CA 90640-6143
(323) 721-6060
- Holy Spirit Retreat Center
4316 Lanai Road
Encino, CA 91436-3617
(818) 784-4518
- La Casa de Maria
800 EI Bosque Road
Santa Barbara, CA 93108-1311
(805) 969-5031
- Mary and Joseph Retreat Center
5300 Crest Road
Rancho Palos Verdes CA 90275
(310) 377-4867
- Mater Dolorosa Retreat Center
700 N. Sunnyside Avenue
Sierra Madre, CA 91024-1023
(626) 355-7188
- Poverello Retreat Center
1519 Woodworth Street
San Fernando, CA 91340-2751
(818) 365-1071
- Sacred Heart Retreat House
920 East Alhambra Road
Alhambra, CA 91801-2799
(626) 289-1353 Ext 200
- Serra Retreat House
3401 Serra Road Box 127
Malibu, CA 90265-0127
(310) 456-6631
- Center for Spiritual Development
434 S. Batavia Street
Orange, CA 92868-3907
(714) 744-3175 ext. 4400