

The Bereavement Ministry



“Lord, give me a heart that is sensitive to those who are grieving; the wisdom to know when to speak words of comfort and when to keep silent. I pray that you would use my life to be a channel of encouragement and hope, through whom the peace of the Lord, Jesus Christ will flow into their hearts to heal and help. Amen.”

The Bereavement Ministry attempts to bring comfort, support, counseling and education to those who are grieving the death of a loved one or who are struggling with other of life's losses.

The death of a loved one is an emotionally devastating experience. Ministers from St. Brendan's Lazarus Ministry (coordinated by Pat McLaughlin) are available to meet with the family of the deceased to offer condolences on behalf of the parish and to let them know they are not alone in their grief. The family is assisted in planning the funeral mass, such as choosing meaningful readings and hymn selections.

Ministers from The Funeral Fellowship Ministry (coordinated by Jackie Gromadski) stand ready to provide a repast in the church hall after the funeral services when requested by the family.

Bereavement Ministers send to the immediate family: (MaryAnn Lindsay And Beverly Methvin)

- A Mass card from the parish
- Four booklets over a period of time on the topics of grieving and loss to help get through a particular period of the grief process

Immediate family members are also contacted by a Bereavement Minister (Pat Bowers) to inform them of the availability in our parish of both private and group counseling sessions by a trained grief counselor and to offer an opportunity to share their feelings and concerns.

In the fall, a special session called “Coping with Grief During the Holidays” is available and conducted by Jean Pelletier, a parishioner and a trained bereavement counselor.

Through bulletin announcements, parishioners are made aware of other professional bereavement programs taking place locally.

Those who have died during the year are also remembered in a special way in the All Souls Day liturgy in November.

New members are needed and welcome. If you are interested in being a part of any aspect of this very important ministry, please contact:

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