

## The Emmaus Ministry for Grieving Parents

### Serving the Needs of Grieving Parents on Their Spiritual Journeys

**Here is what our parents have to say about their  
experiences in this ministry...**

*"The weekend we spent with you was life transforming.  
It had a profound effect and helped us heal as a couple."*

*"We came away emotionally and physically exhausted, but with a  
renewed faith that our children are truly alive and still with us. We  
came away with Hope."*

*"Until I surrounded myself with parents who have suffered the same  
loss—and received the spiritual guidance I needed to try and  
understand and cope, I was floundering."*

*"This was a Godsend to us. We have been so isolated in our grief  
and have not had any help with the spirituality of grieving... we are  
so grateful for this ministry."*

#### **Please Support This Ministry with Your Generous Donation!**

Nothing quite like this ministry, with its dual mission of (a) walking with grieving parents in their spiritual journeys and (b) supporting parents who want to bring this ministry to their locations, is available anywhere else. Donations are sorely needed to enable us to fund retreat scholarships for parents who are unable to attend otherwise—and to underwrite expenses in helping parents establish this ministry locally.

The Emmaus Ministry for Grieving Parents is a registered 501(c)(3) organization. Our Board of Directors includes Sr. Marie Puleo, MFIC, Fr. David Convertino, OFM, and Charley and Diane Monaghan, parents of Paul.

Please send your tax-deductible donations to  
The Emmaus Ministry for Grieving Parents,  
194 Bishops Forest Drive, Waltham, MA 02452.  
Your generosity is greatly appreciated!

#### **For more information:**

See [www.emmausministryforgrievingparents.org](http://www.emmausministryforgrievingparents.org)  
Email [info@emmausministryforgrievingparents.org](mailto:info@emmausministryforgrievingparents.org)  
Or call Diane Monaghan at (800) 919-9332.

# The Emmaus Ministry

## FOR GRIEVING PARENTS



### Serving the Needs of Grieving Parents on Their Spiritual Journeys



*“Blest are you who weep and mourn,  
for one day you will laugh.”*

Of all the pains that life can hand us, arguably the most searing is the loss of a child. A parent's world irrevocably and horrifically changes forever. As Jesus joined his distraught disciples on the road to Emmaus after his crucifixion, we ask him to join each of us in this ministry as we struggle through this horrendous journey of grief every day.

What rich symbolism there is in the Emmaus story for those of us who have lost a child and are on our own painful journeys to maintain the hope that we will see our children again and restore faith in the fact that life has changed, not ended.

The Emmaus Ministry for Grieving Parents provides an opportunity for you to take time out of your busy schedule to focus on your personal spiritual journey in dealing with the death of your child. To ask questions like... *Where is God in my pain? Is it ok to be angry with God? Where is my child right now? Why do I feel abandoned by God? How am I ever going to get through this?*

Join us in a warm and loving environment with others who know your pain. In the Franciscan tradition of *“All are Welcome,”* our doors are open to all grieving parents of all religions whose children of any age have died by any cause, no matter how long ago.

## The Emmaus Ministry for Grieving Parents Programs

Emmaus Ministry programs are offered by groups of Emmaus Parent Companions, who believe that *“It is in consoling that we are consoled.”* Together with Franciscan friars and sisters, as well as Catholic clergy, we offer programs throughout the year in various states. See [www.emmausministryforgrievingparents.org](http://www.emmausministryforgrievingparents.org) for exact times and locations. We constantly add new programs and locations.

**If you are interested in bringing this ministry to your area,  
Email [info@emmausministryforgrievingparents.org](mailto:info@emmausministryforgrievingparents.org)  
Or call Diane Monaghan at (800) 919-9332.**

### Spiritual Retreats

#### One-Day Spiritual Retreats

These retreats give you the opportunity to concentrate on your individual spiritual journey and to listen to the experiences of other grieving parents. Offered several times/year at various locations.

#### Weekend Spiritual Retreats

These retreats enable you to escape everyday life for a weekend to find comfort and seek spiritual healing with clergy, religious, and other parents on the same journey. Included are individual and group sessions, as well as liturgies and prayer services. You are invited to share as much or as little as you like. Many people participate by listening. Offered once a year at various locations.

### Monthly Scripture Socials

Join other parents for a short Scripture reading and discussion of how the passage may or may not speak to your experience as a grieving parent. Offered monthly at various locations.

**For more information on times and locations:  
See [www.emmausministryforgrievingparents.org](http://www.emmausministryforgrievingparents.org)  
Email [info@emmausministryforgrievingparents.org](mailto:info@emmausministryforgrievingparents.org)  
Or call Diane Monaghan at (800) 919-9332.**