



*Serving the Spiritual Needs of Grieving Parents  
Whose Children of Any Age Have Died by Any Cause,  
No Matter How Long Ago*

**Your Emmaus Ministry  
Remote Retreat Guide  
September 19, 2020  
9:30am EDT  
(or a convenient time for you)**

**HEALING**

***God Heals When Nothing Else Can***

*When we're in pain, it is difficult to be consoled by friends and family.  
Though they mean well, no one can understand  
exactly what we're going through.  
But God knows us and He knows our suffering.  
He is always with us. So fear not the breaking point.  
With Him, there is no breaking point,  
Only turning back to the path He paved through Jesus Christ.*



**Preparation:**

Ahead of time, we recommend you find a quiet place in your home where you can immerse yourself in this retreat. Have your child's Emmaus Memorial Candle (or other candle) available along with a lighter or matches.

Take several deep breaths to cleanse your thoughts and open yourself to wherever the Holy Spirit is calling you today several minutes before the retreat is scheduled to begin.

At 9:30am EDT open your email and join other fellow Emmaus Parent Companions in getting away from the rest of the world, at least for a time, to focus on God and on your precious child.

**CANDLE LIGHTING PRAYER** (Light your candle)

We begin... In the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, Amen

Lord, you are the Light of the World. *Help us feel your presence in the lighting of this candle.*

Lord, you gave us the gift of our children. *Help us feel their presence in the lighting of this candle.*

Lord, you gave us the hope of eternal life. *Help us confirm that hope in the lighting of this candle.*

Lord, you gave us love. *Help us to know that, as much as we love our children, you love them even more.*

We ask you this through Christ, Our Lord  
Amen.

**OPENING SONG:** [Healer](#) by Kari Jobe

*You walk with me through fire; you calm my raging seas.*

**PRAYER OF THOSE MAKING A RETREAT**

Loving Spirit of Wisdom,  
Guide my thoughts and my memories.

In the light of your love,  
May I see what is important for me to remember,  
What is important for me to hold to my heart,  
And what I need to simply let go of in peace.

I trust you to be my guide,  
Even when the path seems unclear to me.

We pray this in the name of Your Son, the Healer,  
Our Lord, Jesus Christ.  
Amen.

## **SCRIPTURE READING**

### **Psalm 6**

#### **A Psalm of David**

Do not reprove me in your anger, LORD,  
Nor punish me in your wrath.

Have pity on me, LORD, for I am weak;  
Heal me, LORD, for my bones are shuddering.

My soul too is shuddering greatly—  
And you, LORD, how long?

Turn back, LORD, rescue my soul;  
Save me because of your mercy.

For in death, there is no remembrance of you.  
Who praises you in Sheol?

I am wearied with sighing;  
All night long I drench my bed with tears;  
I soak my couch with weeping.

My eyes are dimmed with sorrow,  
Worn out because of all my foes.

Away from me, all who do evil!  
The LORD has heard the sound of my weeping.

The LORD has heard my plea;  
The LORD will receive my prayer.

My foes will all be disgraced and will shudder greatly;  
They will turn back in sudden disgrace.

**REFLECTION:** [How to Find Healing Together](#) by Fr. Mark Mary

*Many of us are hurting in one way or another, but for every hurt, there is a way to find healing together.*

## **PRAYER FOR HEALING**

**Lord, you invite all who are burdened to come to you.**

**Allow your healing hand to heal us;**

**Touch our souls with your compassion for others;**

**Touch our hearts with your courage and infinite love for all;**

**Touch our minds with your wisdom;**

**And may our mouths always proclaim Your praise.**

**Teach us to reach out to you in all our needs;**

**Help us to lead others to you by our example.**

**Most loving Heart of Jesus, give us health in body and spirit that we may serve you with all our strength.**

**Touch gently this life which you have created, now and forever.**

**Amen.**

**CLOSING HYMN:** [Healing Waters](#) by the Arch Street Band

Healing waters... Wash over me.

### **CLOSING BLESSING**

Let us end our time of retreat...united with Brother John Maganzini, OFM and the Franciscan Friars at Saint Anthony Shrine in Boston, MA, by blessing one another.

Raise your right hand and, together, let us pray...

Lord,

Look upon us with your eyes of mercy,

May your healing hand rest upon us,

May your life-giving powers flow into every cell of our bodies

May your life-giving powers flow into the depths of our souls,

Cleansing, purifying, and restoring us to wholeness  
and strength.

We ask you to bless us with all of this, in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

Amen



### **FOR FURTHER REFLECTION:**

- [Will God Heal My Wounds?](#) by Fr. Mike Schmidt  
*As God answered St. Paul, "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness" (2 Corinthians 12:9).*



You will receive a new Emmaus Remote Retreat email next Friday.

Please join your fellow Emmaus Parent Companions again next Saturday at 9:30am EDT

Until then, may God bless you and keep you. Sending many warm, virtual hugs

For past Remote Retreats, see [here](#).

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**NEW!**  
**FALL. 2020**  
**EMMAUS MINISTRY**  
**FOUR-HOUR VIRTUAL RETREATS!**  
**The October Virtual Retreat is Close to Closing.**  
**[See our website for more details.](#)**



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