

[View this email in your browser](#)



*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
July 24 , 2021
9:30am EDT**



LIFE AFTER LIFE

***When your child was co-created by you
(or his/her biological parents),
he/she was co-created,
not only as a human being,
but also as an eternal being,
who will live forever.***

--Fr. Jurgen Liias

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 (our normal retreat beginning time) 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: [Eye Has Not Seen; Ear Has Not Heard](#) by Marty Haugen
Our lives are but a single breath, compared to what is to come.

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

JOHN 14: 1-6

“Do not let your hearts be troubled. You have faith in God; have faith also in me.

In my Father’s house there are many dwelling places. If there were not, would I have told you that I am going to prepare a place for you?

And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back again and take you to myself, so that where I am you also may be.

Where [I] am going you know the way.”

Thomas said to him, "Master, we do not know where you are going; how can we know the way?"

Jesus said to him, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me."

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise be to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

REFLECTION #1: [Heaven: You're Not Good Enough \(and why that's ok\)](#)

by Fr. Mike Schmitz

All you have to do are these two things...



Take a moment to pause... breathe... savor what you have received from the Reflection #1.

Clear your mind before focusing on Reflection #2.

REFLECTION #2: [Bishop Barron on Hell](#) by Bishop Robert Barron

How could an infinitely good God send people to Hell? Hell is the final definitive "no" uttered from one's eternal soul. God doesn't send people there. People send themselves.



Take a moment to pause... breathe... savor what you have received from the Reflection #2.

Clear your mind before focusing on Reflection #3.

REFLECTION #3: [Dying Souls are Given a Last Chance: St. Faustina](#)

by Fr. Mark Goring, CC

According to St. Faustina, here is what really happens at the moment of death.

PRAYER

Eternal rest grant unto our precious children, O Lord.

And let your perpetual light shine upon them.

May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed,
through the mercy of God, rest in peace.
Amen.

CLOSING SONG: [City of God](#) by Dan Schutte

May our tears be turned into dancing! For the Lord, our Light and our Love, has turned the night into day!

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 give this blessing

May the love of God and the peace of the Lord Jesus Christ gently wipe every tear from our eyes.

May the love of God and the peace of the Lord Jesus Christ bless us and console us.

May the love of God and the peace of our Lord Jesus Christ give us hope of eternal life for our children and for ourselves.

May the love of God and the peace of Our Lord Jesus Christ deliver us from evil.

We ask this of you, Lord, as we bless each other in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.



FOR FURTHER REFLECTION...

- [What Will Heaven Be Like?](#) by Christ the King Productions
Eye has not seen; ear has not heard all that God has ready for those who love him.

- **Song:** [I Can Only Imagine](#)
by Mercy Me
Will I dance for you, Jesus?

- [Do I Believe in the Resurrection of the Dead?](#) by Evan Holguin
God isn't just going to plo p us in a copy of our current bodies. Instead, our rising from the dead will be a rising unto glorified bodies.
- [The Validity of Near Death Experiences](#) by Fr. Robert Spitzer
A Definitive Guide to Near Death Experiences from a Catholic perspective.

IMPORTANT MESSAGE!

NEXT WEEK...

SATURDAY MORNING REMOTE RETREATS
WILL END JULY 31, 2021.
SEE HERE FOR MORE INFORMATION.



COMING
SOON!

IN-PERSON
EMMAUS
MINISTRY
RETREATS

You will receive a new 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.](#)



c/o 194 Bishops Forest Drive Waltham, MA 02452

Copyright © 2021 emfgp.org all rights reserved.

[unsubscribe](#) | emfgp.org | info@emfgp.org | +1 800 919 9332