

Archdiocese of Milwaukee

Bereavement Ministry

A Ministry of the St John Paul II Office for the New Evangelization

Rich Harter, Director of Evangelization, Marriage and Family Life

414-758-2215 or harterr@archmil.org

Grief Support Groups

The Archdiocese of Milwaukee provides this information to assist you in finding grief support. The Archdiocese sponsors the Common Ground of Grief presentations and support groups. The inclusion of other groups on this list does not imply approval or endorsement on the part of the Archdiocese. The Archdiocese of Milwaukee is not responsible for them in anyway. We are stating that we know these groups exist and are providing grief support.

Note: Grief support groups *frequently change* schedules. Hospitals are generally most consistent in their programs. It is always best to *call ahead* to confirm information.

Catholic Parishes & Other Organizations

Fond du Lac County

Agnesian HealthCare — Bereavement Center and Grief Relief. Grief Support is a group for children and families. 1161 W. Johnson St, Fond Du Lac, WI 54935. For more information call 920-907-3940

Kids Survival Kamp; Journey of Heart

Contact: S. Joyann Repp, RN, 920-907-3927 reppj@agnesian.com or Staci Salzmman at 920-924-4678

Kenosha County

Grief Support Group, meets at the Piasecki-Althaus Family Services Center, 2002 52nd St., Kenosha 53140 the 1st and 3rd Saturdays of the month from 9:00am-11:00am. For further information contact Judy Francois at 262-654-0937. Please call first. Or email at mapaswa@sbcglobal.net

Survivors of Suicide Support Group, meets at the Piasecki-Althaus Family Services Center, 2002 52nd St., Kenosha 53140 every 1st and 3rd Tuesday of the month from 6:00pm-8:00pm. Please call first, Debbie Rueber at 262-605-6722 or at debbie.rueber@kenoshacounty.org for more information.

Milwaukee County

St. Alphonsus Parish Ministry Center — 5960 W. Loomis Rd., Greendale, 53129. **Bereavement Group** meets from 10:00 – 11:30 a.m. monthly on the 1st and 3rd Thursdays. Nancy Snyder facilitates this support group for adults who have lost a loved one. Christian focus – ongoing participation – open to the public. Contact: Kathy Knutel, 414-421-3796. Parish e-mail is: stals@st-alphonsus.org.

Our Lady of Lourdes -Widower's Support Group - 3722 S. 58th St., Milwaukee, WI 53220. Meets the third Thursday of each month from 10 – 11:30am in room 9. For more information contact Wanda at 414-545-4316.

Our Lady of Lourdes Parish — Widows Group - 3722 S. 58th St., Milwaukee, WI 53220. Meets monthly on the fourth Thursday from 12:00 noon until 2:00 p.m. Grief support for adult women who have lost a spouse. Contact: Kim at 414-543-8292 or kfex@stgregsmil.org.

“Kyle’s Korner” – 7106 W. North Ave., Wauwatosa, 53213. Kyle’s Korner is a not-for-profit organization dedicated to assisting children, teens and their families who have experienced grief due to loss of a loved one through death. Families are offered support, understanding, empathy and education in a safe environment that is conducive to acceptance, respect, trust and caring throughout the healing process. **Widows and Widowers Groups** meet every 1st and 3rd Tuesday of every month from 5:30pm-7:30pm. Pre-registration is required. For more information and to register, please contact **Kyle’s Korner** at 414-777-1585 or www.kyleskorner.org.

“Healing Through Griefwork.” -Mary Queen of Heaven — 2322 S. 106 St. West Allis, 53227. This gathering of a Healing Circle of Support for those working through their grief over the loss of a loved one begins with a light supper at 6:30 p.m. followed by Scripture, sharing and prayer. Prior registration is appreciated to assure ample food and handouts. Contact Ann Spoerl at 414-427-9140.

“My Good Mourning Place” – Housed at the former convent located on the **Blessed Sacrament Church** campus at 4005 W. Oklahoma Ave., Milwaukee, 53215 (40th Street and Oklahoma Avenue). The bereavement center was established to reach out to children from **ages 3 to 19** and their families who have been touched by death and to provide a caring place for them to cry and help them gain the necessary tools to deal with loss. They also offer a support group for adults older than 35 **who have had a spouse die**. Contact information: Connie Taylor at 414-643-5678 or 414-385-5265 or www.mygoodmourningplace.org.

St. Stephen Grief Support Group- 1441 W. Oakwood Road, Oak Creek, Family Life Center
For more information contact Lynn Kaestner at 414-762-0552.

Wheaton Franciscan Healthcare-Wauwatosa – 5th Floor Conference Room, 201 N. Mayfair Rd., Wauwatosa 53226. Free seminars to help individuals grieving the loss of a loved one are offered throughout the year. To register for these seminars or for further information, please call 1-888-994-3286 or go online at www.mywheaton.org. For individual Grief Support and information, please call Wheaton Franciscan Bereavement Services at 414-447-2490.

Racine County

Bereavement Support Ministry: The on-going bereavement support is a collaborative ministry of the parishes of St. Lucy, St. Paul and St. Sebastian. All are invited to come to the monthly support meeting on the 3rd Monday of each month at St. Lucy Parish in the large conference room. You will feel the love of Christ through the support of others. Evening Sessions begin at 5:30 p.m. and end at 7:00pm. Refreshments are provided. (*Park in the small parking lot south of the church and enter through the main church entrance.*) For more information, call 262-554-1801.

CARING AND SHARING GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP

The morning group will begin at 10:00 a.m. in the Chapel of Boland Hall at the Wisconsin Veterans Home, 21425 Spring Street, Union Grove. The evening group begins at 6:30 pm and is held at Cross Lutheran Church, 126 Chapel Terrace, Burlington. Feel free to join the group any time. For anyone who would prefer a home visit, the St. Alphonsus Grief Support team is sincerely happy to talk and pray with you and/or your family. Please contact Julie Seegers at 608-212-6037.

Washington County

St. Frances Cabrini — 1025 S. 7th Ave., West Bend, 53095. **Grief Support Group** for adults who have lost a loved one. Meets monthly on the 1st Thursday at 6:30pm- 8:00pm in the lower level of the church. Ecumenical – ongoing participation – open to the public. For more information, please contact Mary at call 262-338-5600.

St. Kilian Catholic Church - 428 Forest St., Hartford, 53027. **Path of Hope Bereavement Group** for adults who have lost a loved one. Meets the 4th Tuesday of the month, 7:00-8:30 p.m. in the parish office. Open to the public–Christian focus–ongoing participation. Contact: Parish Secretary at 262-673-4831 or email at krebss@archmil.org.

Waukesha County

St. Anthony - N74W13604 Appleton Ave, Menomonee Falls. **Grief Support Group** for adults who have lost a loved one meets the 3rd Wednesday of the month, 11:30AM – 1:00PM (luncheon). Contact: Audrey Noy at 262-345-5155.

Companions on the Journey, Grief Support Groups for adults who have lost a loved one, are offered collaboratively at two parishes in **New Berlin** twice every month. This will be your opportunity to share your story of grief (sharing is optional) in a safe, supportive environment. We offer comfort, support and many resources (books, pamphlets, etc.)

Holy Apostles School Library (Door 16), 3875 S. 159th St., **2nd Monday, 6:30 – 8:30 PM.**

St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Reflection Room, 12700 W. Howard Ave., **3rd Tuesday, 6:30 – 8:30 PM.**
For information on either group, contact Rita at 262-782-6341 or capriolorm@att.net.

St. Dominic, Brookfield; St. John Vianney, Brookfield; St. Mary, Elm Grove; St. Joseph, Wauwatosa — This four parish support group offers a 4-week grief support series entitled "**Hope in the Midst of Grief**" every May and October annually. The location of the group rotates amongst the 4 parishes. The "Hope Series" offers grief support for adults who have lost a loved one and is open to the public. Please call for dates and location. **Registration is required.** Contacts: Mary Lestina, 262-781-3480, ext. 225 or mary.lestina@stdominic.net or Martha Malloy, 262-796-3944 or martham@stjohnv.org.

Healing Hearts of Waukesha County, Inc. — First United Methodist Church, 121 Wisconsin Ave., Waukesha, 53186. A grief-support program for children and families who are dealing with the loss of a loved one due to death, divorce, separation, military deployment, incarceration and immigration. Children meet in small peer groups guided by trained facilitators. While the children meet, parents, guardians and caretakers of the child participants are offered an opportunity to meet in small peer groups with facilitators also. Contact: Melissa Minkley: melissa@stillwaterscenter.org or call 262-751-0874.

Website: www.healingheartsofwaukeshaco.org.

St. Leonard — W173 S7743 Westwood Dr., Muskego, 53150. "**Sharing Your Grief, Easing Your Loss**", monthly grief support group. Please contact Bridget Klawitter, Pastoral Associate for specific dates and topics at the parish (262-679-1773) or via email: klawitterb@archmil.org

St. Mary's - N89 W16297 Cleveland Ave., Menomonee Falls, WI 53051. **Grief Support Group** meets the 2nd Wednesday of each month, 11:30a.m. – 1:00p.m. For more information contact the parish office at 262-251-0220 or email Judy Murlasits at murlasits@sbcglobal.net.

St. Mary Catholic Church — Parish Center, 225 S. Hartwell Ave., Waukesha 53186. **Grief Support Group** for adults who have lost a loved one. Group meets first Thursdays of the month, 6:30-8:00 p.m. Please call the parish office in advance as sometimes the schedule changes due to holidays and Holy Days. For more information, contact: St. Mary Parish, 262-547-6555 ext. 300; or Pastoral Associate Marguerite Thompson at: mthompson@stmarywauk.org.

St. Paul — P.O. Box 95, S38 W31602 Hwy. D, Genesee Depot, 53127. Cathy Labinski **occasionally** facilitates a group based on interest. Contact Cathy via the parish office, 262-968-3865 or via the parish email at office@stpaulgenesee.net. Please include Cathy's name in the subject line of any email communication.

Stillwaters Center, Inc., 2607 N. Grandview Blvd, Ste 110, Waukesha. **Hope, Healing & Growth**, a grief support group for adults who have lost a loved one to cancer. Workshops and individual counseling is also offered. For more information or to register for workshops held at various locations, please contact: Melissa Minkley, 262-548-9148 or melissa@stillwaterscenter.org or Larry, 262-524-4132 or larry@stillwaterscenter.org. Stillwaters Center website at www.stillwaterscenter.org.

St. William — Vercelli House, 440 N. Moreland Blvd., Waukesha, 53188. **Grief Support** for adults who have lost a loved one. Ongoing participation – open to the public. Contact: Cindy Bergland, 262-547-2763, ext. 213 or cbergland@tds.net for information on dates and times.

Waukesha – No set location. “**Loss of A Loved One.**” Kathy Bruning conducts grief support groups for adults who have lost a loved one 2-3 times a year. Open to the public. Call or email for locations, dates, and times. Contact: Kathy Bruning, 262-524-9965 or starlab@wi.rr.com.

Hospitals – Milwaukee County

Aurora St. Luke’s Medical Center, 2900 W. Oklahoma Ave., Milwaukee, 53215

Women and Grief – a support group for adult women who have lost a loved one. Registration required. Contact: Kerry Ahrens, 414-649-6567.

Grieving the Death of a Partner (men & women) – a support group for the death of a spouse or life partner. Contact Kerry Ahrens, 414-649-6567 for dates and times of current sessions and to register.

Kids Care – a support group for kids who have lost a loved one – ages 5-12 years old. Four-week sessions. Call for dates and times. Contacts: Sue Berg, Child Life Specialist, or Cadie Lourigan, 414-649-6634.

Survivors Helping Survivors – bereavement support for adults who have lost a relative or friend to **suicide**. Registration not required. Contact: Mary Ellen Turek, 414-543-0787.

Aurora St. Luke’s South Shore - 5900 S. Lake Dr., Cudahy, 53110

“Healing Grief” – a support group for adults who have lost a loved one. Call for dates and times. Contact: Patty Borkowski, 414-489-4137.

Aurora West Allis Medical Center, 8901 W. Lincoln Ave., West Allis, 53227

Living Through Loss – bereavement support group for adults who have lost a loved one. For more information, call 888-863-5502.

Infant Loss Support Group – support for parents who have lost a baby during pregnancy, at birth or shortly after birth, no matter how long it has been since their loss. Ongoing participation – registration not required. Contact: Machel Minster, RN, 414-329-5908 or Colleen Struck at 414-328-7524.

Children's Hospital of Wisconsin – Children's Corporate Center, Suite 255, 999 N. 92nd St. Wauwatosa 53226

"Infant Loss Support Group" – a grief support group for adults who have suffered the loss of an infant. Call for information. Contact Bereavement Coordinator: Nichole, 414-266-2995 or email NSchwerman@chw.org.

"Child Loss Support Group" – A support group for parents who have experienced the death of a child (2 yrs or older.) Contact Nichole Schweman, Bereavement Coordinator, 414-266-2995 or nschwerman@chw.org for more information.

Miscellaneous

Fr. Guy Gurath, St. Mary Parish, 6092 Lake Church Rd., Belgium, WI 53004. Fr. Gurath has been involved in Grief Ministry since 1988 while also serving in various parish ministries. His CDs (and tapes) are available through Seaworthy Publications or for a complimentary copy, call him at 262-285-3040.

Parent Support Groups

RTS Bereavement Program (formerly known as **RESOLVE THROUGH SHARING**)
Miscarriage, ectopic pregnancy, stillbirth, or newborn death:

United Hospital System -Kenosha Medical Center. Contact Chaplain Katherine Neal at: 262-656-2753

St. Agnes Hospital, Fond du Lac. Contact Kirsten for more information at: 920-926-4843

Wheaton Franciscan Healthcare -Outpatient Center, Wauwatosa: For more information- 414-447-2473

Columbia/St. Mary's Hospital, Milwaukee. For more info contact Kathy at 585-1328 or 414-291-1141

St. Joseph's, West Bend. For more information call 262-334-8361

Watertown Regional Medical Center- Center for Women's Health, Watertown - 920-262-4825

Aurora West Allis Medical Center, West Allis. Groups meet the 1st Wednesday of each month. Contact Michelle at 414-329-5908.

Racine Ascension All Saints, Racine – 1320 Wisconsin Ave. Group meets 3rd Tuesday of each month, from 2:00 – 3:00 p.m. in the Horlick Room on the first floor. For more information, call 800-304-7837.

The Compassionate Friends

The Compassionate Friends is a mutual assistance, self-help organization offering friendship and understanding to bereaved parents and sibling. The primary purpose is to assist them in the positive resolution of the grief experienced upon the death of a child. For nearly two decades The Compassionate Friends chapters in the Milwaukee area have helped thousands of bereaved parents in their efforts to achieve physical and emotional health.

National Office of the Compassionate Friends

Mailing address: 900 Jorie Blvd. Suite 78, Oak Brook, IL 60523
Regional Coordinator – State of Wisconsin: Jim Staniforth – 608-835-7493
Toll free: 877-969-0010
Fax: 630-990-0246
E-mail: nationaloffice@compassionatefriends.org
Website: www.compassionatefriends.org

There are five chapters of **The Compassionate Friends** in the local area.

Milwaukee/Oak Creek County Chapter meets at Oak Creek Community Center, 8580 S. Howell Ave., Oak Creek 53154. Rosemary Albrecht, 414-301-9273.

Ozaukee County Chapter meets at Cedar Mills St. Mary's Health Center, N143W6515 Pioneer Rd, Cedarburg 53012. Contact: Cory, 262-376-1724.

Racine County Chapter meets at Wheaton Franciscan Healthcare All Saints Medical Center, Lower Level, 3801 Spring St., Racine 53405. Contact: Diane Beck at 262-895-4888 or Peg Rousar-Thompson at 262-598-0834.

Walworth County Chapter meets at St. John Lutheran Church, 104 S. Broad St., Elkhorn 53121. Contact: Mary, 262-248-4398.

Waukesha County Chapter - Contact: Karen Staker, 262-470-5843.

Milwaukee/Wauwatosa- TCF Metro Milwaukee - Contact Johnin at 317-224-8417 for more information.

Suicide Support Groups

Survivors Helping Survivors offers grief support for adults who have lost a relative or friend to suicide: **Aurora St. Luke's Medical Center, 2900 W. Oklahoma Ave., Milwaukee 53215.** Registration not required. Contact: Mary Ellen, 414-543-0787 or DeeDee at 414-732-7237 or ddslawny@aol.com.

Tri-City National Bank, 4295 W. Bradley Rd., Milwaukee 53209. Ongoing participation. Contact: Joan, 414-545-8786 or MHA, 414-276-3122.

Survivors of Suicide offers grief support for adults who have lost a relative or friend to suicide: **Rogers Memorial Hospital, 34700 Valley Rd., Oconomowoc 53066.** Ongoing participation. Contact: Michelle Seering, 262-646-1111

Waukesha Memorial Hospital, 725 American Ave., Waukesha 53188. Ongoing participation. Contact: Jill Collins, 262-970-9738.

Survivors of Suicide Support Group, meets at the **Piasecki-Althaus Family Services Center, 2002 52nd St., Kenosha 53140.** Please call 262-658-4101 for more information.

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