



Ministry for Grieving Parents at the Shrine

I am happy to announce an expansion of our continuing efforts to serve the spiritual needs of grieving parents in metro Boston by collaborating with the *Emmaus Ministry for Grieving Parents* to offer its services at the Shrine. The Emmaus Ministry serves the spiritual needs of parents whose children of any age have died by any cause.

In 2009, The Emmaus Ministry began as the Pieta Ministry here at the Shrine. Since that time, it has expanded its mission to not only serve the spiritual needs of grieving parents, but also to help parents establish the ministry in their own areas. It has worked with groups of grieving parents, clergy, and friars, as well as the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston to set up programs in MA, CT, and WV. More than 100 parents in 13 states have received comfort from the ministry. It will continue to expand wherever it is called.

St. Anthony Shrine & Ministry Center will serve as the Emmaus Ministry's spiritual home in Boston; we will begin offering Emmaus Ministry services immediately. Current Pieta Ministry programs will be absorbed into the Emmaus Ministry. Diane Monaghan will serve as the ministry director. She will be assisted by Charley Monaghan, Brother John Maganzini, OFM, who will serve as spiritual leader, and Fr. Jim Czerwinski, OFM, who will continue to be involved with monthly meetings. In addition to retreats and monthly meetings, we hope to expand the ministry with weekday programs serving the spiritual needs of grieving parents, as well as other types of monthly meetings. All are welcome!

The ministry's first One-Day Retreat will be held at the Shrine on Saturday, August 2. Please call Diane Monaghan at 617-542-6440 for more information about the ministry or the retreat. Her email is info@emmausministryforgrievingparents.com Please join me in welcoming this much needed ministry back to the Shrine in this capacity.

Fr. Thomas Conway, OFM Executive Director