



Bereavement Group Directory

Archdiocese of Philadelphia
Family Life Office
222 North 17th Street
8th Floor
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215-587-5639

“Jesus revolutionized the meaning of death. He did so with his teaching, above all by facing death himself. ‘Dying he destroyed death,’ says the liturgy of the Easter season. ... In this way, the Son of God wished to share our human condition to the end, to open it to hope. Ultimately, he was born to be able to die and in this way to free us from the slavery of death. ... Since then, death is no longer the same: It has been deprived, so to speak, of its ‘venom.’ The love of God, acting in Jesus, has given new meaning to the whole of man's existence and in this way, has also transformed death.”

— Benedict XVI, “On the Meaning of Death,” Address to midday Angelus audience, St. Peter’s Square, Nov. 5, 2006.

The **Family Life Office** of the Archdiocese of Philadelphia presents this Bereavement Directory to help those who are grieving the loss of a loved one, as well as to provide a resource for those involved in ministering to the bereaved. It lists many support groups offered by parishes, hospitals, hospices, funeral homes, and other organizations in the Philadelphia area.

Bereavement Group Directory

Groups in this directory are categorized by county as follows:

Parish/Cluster
Catholic Hospitals
Secular Hospitals
Funeral Homes
Community Secular Groups

This publication is offered as an informational resource, and should not be understood as an official endorsement by the Family Life Office. All programs are locally sponsored by the listed parish, institution, or organization, and responsibility for these programs rests with the respective sponsors.

Please send any information on programs not listed in the directory, or changes on current listings, to the Family Life Office for possible inclusion in the next edition.

Last updated September 2009.

BEREAVEMENT PROGRAMS

PARISH/CLUSTER

Bucks County

St. Andrew
81 Swamp Rd.
Newtown, PA 18940

General Bereavement Support Group: A 5-week support group titled “Grieving the Death of a Loved One” is offered in the Fall and Spring of each year. It is held Monday evenings (dates TBD) from 7:30 to 8:45 pm at the Motherhouse of the Grey Nuns (1750 Quarry Rd.; Yardley, PA).

Men’s Bereavement Group: meets twice a month on Tuesday evenings from 7:30 to 9:00 pm in the lower level of the Old Church of St. Andrew (135 South Sycamore St.). For information on either of these groups, call Sr. Jean Liston, GNSH at 215-968-2262, x26.

Assumption BVM
1900 Meadowbrook Road
Feasterville, PA 19053

General Bereavement Support Group: meets Mondays in the fall (Oct. and Nov.) from 7:00 to 8:30 pm in the rectory meeting room.

Suicide Survivors Support Group: will meet in Spring 2010. For information on

either group, call Barbara Wutzer at 215-355-8897 or Ann Marie Jannotta at 215-355-3394.

Nativity of Our Lord
625 W. Street Rd.
Warminster, PA 18974

“Mourning and Grief Incarnate” (MAGI): meets the 2nd Tuesday of each month in the parish center, from 7:00 to 8:30 p.m. For information contact Roselee Maddaloni at 215-675-1925 or rmaddaloni@aol.com.

Our Lady of Good Counsel
611 Knowles Avenue
Southampton, PA 18966-4198

Support Group for Bereaved Parents:
Open to scheduling meetings with sufficient interest. For information call Suzanne and Mark Kuhn at 215-355-5846.

Our Lady of Grace
225 Bellevue Avenue
Penn del, PA 19047

Bereavement Support Group/ Workshop: focusing on “Your First Holidays Without Your Loved One,” on Tuesday evenings starting Nov. 10, 2009, from 7:30 pm-9:00 pm, in the rectory meeting room. Another bereavement workshop will be offered in the Spring. For information, call Marietta Ginieczki at 215-757-5052.

Our Lady of Mt. Carmel
235 East State Road
Doylestown, Pa 18901

Bereavement Support Group: held every other Tuesday at 6:30 pm, and one Wednesday a month at 10:30 am—12 noon, at the parish. For information and exact dates, call Sister Dolores Burkhardt, SSJ at 215-348-5488.

Saint Ephrem
5340 Hulmeville Rd.
Bensalem, PA 19020

General Bereavement Support Group: held in the fall and spring for 8 consecutive Wednesdays, at 1:00-2:30 pm, and at 7:00 pm-8:30 pm, in the Marian Parish Center. For information, call Sister Anne C. Gallagher, IHM at 215-604-1002 or 215-245-1698.

Saint John Bosco
235 East County Line Road
Hatboro, PA 19040

Bereavement Support Group: meets for 6-week cycles (every other week) in the Spring and Fall, on Sundays, from 12:30-1:30 pm., in the school cafeteria. For information, call Bernice Krueger at 215-443-8439 or Marianne Clunk at 215-675-1166.

Chester County

Saint Cornelius
110 Ridge Road
Chadds Ford, PA 19317

Bereavement Support Group: meets weekly in 8 sessions, 2 times a year, in the church. For information, call Deacon Dick Wirth at 610-459-2502.

Saint Isaac Jogues
50 West Walker Rd.
Wayne, PA 19087

Bereavement Support Group: meets the second Wed. of each month at 10:00-11:30 am. For information, call Linda Copel at 610-687-3366.

Ss. Simon and Jude
8 Cavanaugh Court
West Chester, PA 19382

Bereavement Support Group: Groups scheduled periodically throughout the year, in 6-week intervals. For information, call Sr. Mary Beth Coyle, IHM at 610-696-3624.

Malvern Retreat House
315 S. Warren Ave.
Malvern, PA 19355

Bereavement Support Group: meets most Saturdays beginning at 1:30 p.m. (except for the first Sat. of the month) in conjunc-

tion with the Laymen's Retreat; groups are made up of current retreatants. For information, contact Barbara Selletti at 610-494-0234 or Dave White at 484-321-2521.

Delaware County

Catholic Social Services
240 N. Bishop Avenue
Springfield, PA 19064

General Bereavement Support Group:
Scheduled periodically. Registration required. For information and registration, contact Michael Montie at 610-626-6550.

Holy Saviour
108 E. Ridge Rd.
Linwood, PA 19061

Bereavement Support Group: Meets on the 2nd Monday of the month at 6:00 p.m., in the Rectory Basement Meeting Room. Park in the lot next to the rectory. For information contact Barbara Selletti at 610-494-0234 or Judy Hanavin at 610-485-2520.

Immaculate Conception
21 W. 8th St.
Marcus Hook, PA 19061

Bereavement Support Group: Meets on the 2nd Tuesday of the month at 6:30 p.m., in the parish building next door to church. Park in the Refinery Lot next to the church.

For information contact Barbara Selletti at 610-494-0234 or Nick DiMarino at 610-485-1026.

Saint Dorothy
4910 Township Line Rd.
Drexel Hill, PA 19026

Bereavement Support Group: 8-week support group offered twice a year, in the spring and fall. For information and registration, call 610-789-9914 or 610-789-7257.

Saint Francis of Assisi
136 Saxer Avenue
Springfield, PA 19064

Some special **grief education classes** held periodically in the evenings. For information, call Fr. Mark Kunigonis at the rectory at 610-543-0848.

Saint Gabriel
233 Mohawk Avenue
Norwood, PA 19074

Widows and Widowers: all ages, meets every Thursday at 5:00 pm. For information, call Mary Ellen Forde at 610-532-8597.

Bereaved Parents and Siblings: meets the 1st Tuesday of every month at 7:30pm at the parish hall. For information, call Colleen Howe at 610-532-6245.

Saint John Chrysostom
605 S Providence Road
Wallingford, PA 19086

Bereavement Support Group meets the 4th Tuesday of the month at 7:30 p.m. at the convent.

Coping with the Holidays: meets the 4th Tuesday of November at 7:30 p.m. at the convent. For information on either group, call Sister Eileen Mortimer at 610-876-2079.

Saint Madeline
110 Park St.
Ridley Park, PA 19078

Bereavement Support Group: “Beyond Grief” meets on the last Wednesday of each month, at 7:00 pm, at St. Madeline’s Spiritual Life Center (rear entrance through parking lot at Rectory). For more information and directions, contact Antoinette at 610-534-0681.

Saint Pius X
220 Lawrence Rd.
Broomall, PA 19008

Bereavement Support Group meets for 8 weeks at a time on Wednesdays, from 7-8:30 p.m., in the Mother Theresa of Calcutta Hall (under the Church). For more information, call Sr. Regina Cordis at 610-356-6848.

Saint Rose of Lima
1904 Chester Pike
Eddystone, PA 19022

Bereavement Support Group meets on the first Monday of every month (except in July and Aug.), from 7-8 p.m. For more information, call 610-876-6170.

Montgomery County

Holy Martyrs Church
120 Allison Road
Oreland, PA 19075

Bereavement Support Group: meets in Spring and Fall, on Sundays, from 10 am-11 am in the rectory conference room. For information and current dates, call Doris Duncheskie at 215-884-8575.

Saint Luke the Evangelist
2316 Fairhill Avenue
Glenside, PA 19038

Bereavement Support Group: meets on six Tuesday evenings from 7:00-8:30 p.m. in the fall and spring. Meetings are in the Chapel House. For information, contact Deborah Gawthrop at 215-624-8190 or dgawthropcnlt@verizon.net. (Sponsored by William R. May Funeral Home; Glenside, PA.)

Our Mother of Good Counsel
31 Pennswood Road

Bryn Mawr, PA 19010-3475

Bereavement Support Group: a monthly support group held the 3rd Monday of each month from 7-9 pm. Registration is required. For information call Mary Joan Walheim at 610-667-6866.

St. Rose of Lima
424 S. Main St.
North Wales, PA 19454

Bereavement Support Group: meets the 3rd Monday of each month from 7-9 pm, in the “Fr. Murphy Room” in the Church Hall. For information call Larry Hill at 215-540-0650.

Saint Stanislaus
51 Lansdale Avenue
Lansdale, PA 19446

AND

Mary Mother of the Redeemer
1325 Upper State Road
North Wales, PA 19454

(The two parishes work together in Bereavement Ministry)

Bereavement Support Group: held twice a year for approx. 8 weeks (fall and spring). For information and times, call Carol Benedetto at 215-361-9413 or Mary Coakley at 215-646-4192.

New Beginnings (Widows and Widowers support/social group): For information, call Pam Mohl at 215-855-3133.

Philadelphia County

Christ the King
3252 Chesterfield Rd.
Philadelphia, PA 19114

Bereavement Support Group: Held in the fall (Oct.20 –Dec. 1) on Tuesdays from 7:00-8:30 pm, and in the spring (April 20-May 25; call for times). For more information, contact Fran Williams at 215-632-1144.

Saint Francis Xavier
2321 Green Street
Philadelphia, PA 19130

One-on-One Grief Support Counseling: For more information, call Sister Jeanne Margaret Denny, M.S.B.T. at 215-235-0635, Lucy Raumano at 215-765-0740, or Betty Schoffler at 215-978-6888.

Saint Katherine of Siena
9700 Frankford Avenue
Philadelphia, PA 19114

General Bereavement Support Group: meets monthly from October to June. For information, call Sister Aileen Dolores, MSBT, at 215-637-7548, ext. 402.

Maternity BVM
9220 Bustleton Avenue
Philadelphia, PA 19115

Bereavement Support Group: meets 6 weeks from Sept.-Oct. at 7 p.m.; and 6 weeks in March at 7 p.m., in the parish hall (in the school). For more information, call Jane Passaglia at 215-676-1423.

Our Lady of Calvary
11024 Knights Road
Philadelphia, PA 19154

General Bereavement Support Group: meets in the Fall and Spring for 7 weeks. For information, call Wanda Weslowski at 215-824-0572.

CATHOLIC HOSPITALS

Bucks County

Saint Mary Medical Center
Langhorne-Newton Road
Langhorne, PA 19047

Bereavement Support Groups: programs for six consecutive weeks (three times a year: winter, summer, and fall) on Mondays from 7:00 to 8:30 pm and Thursdays from 1:00 to 2:30 pm. Please call for registration. Meetings held in the Spiritual Care Department on the ground floor of the hospital. For information, contact the Spiritual Care Department at 215-710-5902.

Philadelphia County

Nazareth Hospital
2601 Holme Avenue
Philadelphia, PA 19152

General Support Group: meets the 3rd Monday of each month from 7-9pm in Marian Hall (2nd floor, conference room #1; no meeting in January and February). For information, contact Sr. Loretta Anne Dinda, IHM, at 215-335-7654 or Sr. Eileen Przymowski, CSFN, at 215-335-6015.

Montgomery County

Counseling Center of Holy Redeemer
Health System
521 Moredon Road
Huntingdon Valley, PA 19006

Loss, Bereavement, Grief: offers both day and evening individual counseling appointments. For information call 215-938-1130.

Bereavement Support Group: meets the third Tuesday of the month from 6:30-8:30 pm. For information call 1-800-818-4747.

SECULAR HOSPITALS & HOSPICES

Bucks County

Doylestown Hospital/Hospice

595 W State Street
Doylestown, PA 18901

Widows and Widowers Support Group:
meets the 1st Tuesday of each month from
2:00 - 3:30 pm.

**Young Widows and Widowers Support
Group (age 30-55):** meets Friday evenings
from 7 - 9 p.m.

For information and to register for either
group, call 215-345-2079.

Saint Luke's Quakertown Hospital
1021 Park Avenue
Quakertown, PA 18951

Bereavement Support Group for Adults:
meets the 3rd Monday of each month at
7pm in the Taylor A Conference Room,
Medical Office Building.

**Children's Bereavement Support
Group:** 6-week bereavement workshops in
Bethlehem, Allentown, and Fogelsville.

For information on either group, call Rev.
Ann Huey at 610-954-2835 or Tina Miles
at 610-954-7900.

Grandview Hospital Hospice
700 Lawn Ave.
Sellersville, PA 18960

For information on any of the following
groups, call 215-453-4398:

General Bereavement Support Group:
meets 2nd Tuesdays at 1-2:30 pm, or on
4th Wednesdays at 7-8:30 pm.

Widows and Widowers Support Group:

meets 2nd Wednesdays at 7-8:30 pm.

Mid-Life Widows and Widowers Support Group (for those under 65): meets 3rd Wednesdays at 7-8:30 pm.

Loss of a Parent/Sibling Support Group:

meets 1st Wednesdays at 7-8:30 pm.

New Grief Workshop (for those in the first 4 months of their grief journey): meets 3rd Wednesdays at 1-2:30 pm.

Chester County

Neighborhood Health Agencies Hospice

795 East Marshall Street, Ste. 207

West Chester, PA 19380

Pre-registration is recommended for the following groups. For information and registration, call 610-696-8312, x 393.

Bereavement Support Groups:

For Loss of a Spouse: meets on certain Tuesdays of the month, at 6-7:30 pm.

For Loss of Parent and Other Loss: meets on certain Tuesdays of the month, at 6-7:30 pm.

Living with Loss: meets on certain Tuesdays of the month, at 1-2:30 pm.

Heartland Hospice

5 Christy Dr., Ste. 103

Chadds Ford, PA 19317

Grief Support Groups: Various groups ongoing. For information and to register,

call Mr. Garland Meyers at 484-840-0811
or 1-877-444-5040.

Delaware County

Crozer Keystone Health System Hospice Dept.
5030 State Rd., Ste. 3001
Drexel Hill, PA 19026

General Bereavement Support Group:
meets during the holiday season only For
information, call Mary McMole at 610-
394-1016.

Jefferson Hospice/The Home Care Network
One Radnor Corporate Center
100 Matsonford Rd.
Radnor, PA 19087

General Bereavement Support Group:
meets the 3rd Tuesday of the month at
Lankenau Hospital.

Women's Bereavement Support Group:
meets the 1st Wednesday of the month at
1:00pm.

Adult Daughters: (who lost one or both
parents) meets the 3rd Tuesday of the
month at 6:00pm.

Men's Group: meets the 1st Monday of the
month at 6:00pm.

Jefferson Hospice groups welcome those
grieving during the first year following the
death. For information on any of these
groups, call Liz Hughes or Jayne Andron at
610-254-1550.

Riddle Memorial Hospital
1068 W. Baltimore Pike
Media, PA 19063

General Bereavement Support Group:
meets on the 1st and 3rd Thursdays of the
month at 10:30 am in the medical library.
For information, call Community Health at
610-891-3560.

Taylor Hospice
Hospice Bereavement Groups
175 E Chester Pike
Ridley Park, PA 19078

General Bereavement Support Group:
meets on the 3rd Tuesday of the month at
6:30 pm at the hospice residence.
Young Widows and Widowers: (age 55
and under) meets the 2nd Tuesday of the
month at 6:30pm at the hospice residence.
Widows and Widowers: (age 55 and
older) meets the last Tuesday of the month
at 6:30 pm.
For information on any of these groups,
call Joyce Carnell at 610-521-5822.

Vitas Innovative Hospice Care
1740 Walton Rd.
Blue Bell, PA 19422

General Bereavement Support Group:
Six-week support groups; various groups
ongoing. For information call Sheri Pow-
ers at 800-209-1080 or 610-260-6020.

Montgomery County

Abington Memorial Hospital's Program for Grieving Children, Teens, and Families
Schilling Campus
2500 Maryland Rd.
Willow Grove, PA 19090

Bereavement Support Groups: for grieving children and teens ages 4 to 18 or for young adults ages 19 to 29 (parents/caregivers can attend a concurrent group).

Healing After a Suicide Support Groups: for children and teens (age 6-18), and their parents/caregivers, grieving the death of a loved one lost by suicide.

For information on any group and to register, contact 215-481-5983.

Moss Rehab Einstein at Elkins Park
60 Township Line Road
Elkins Park, PA 19027

Young Widows and Widowers Bereavement Support Group (under the age of 50): meets the 1st & 3rd Thursday evening from 7:30-9:00 pm from September through June. For information, contact Deborah K. Gawthrop at 215-624-8190 or dgawthropecnlt@verizon.net.

North Penn Hospice
51 Medical Campus Dr.
Lansdale, PA 19446

Bereavement Support Group: Meets on the first Wednesdays of the month at 6:30-8 pm, and on the first Thursdays of the month at 1:30-3 pm (both groups from Sept. - Dec.). Call Bill Garrison at 215-855-8297 for information and to register.

Philadelphia County

The Center for Grieving Children,
Teens and Families
1139 East Luzerne St.
Philadelphia, PA 19124
(Satellite site: Rodin Place; 2000 Hamilton St.;
Ste. 304; Philadelphia, PA 19130)

Grief Support Group: series for school-aged children and teens whose lives have been touched by the death of a family member or friend. Concurrent group for adults. Meets every other week.

Educational Programs and conferences: for the bereaved and for professionals who care for them.

For information, call Rob Sheesley at 215-744-4025 or see website at www.grievingchildren.org.

Fox Chase Cancer Center
333 Cottman Ave.
Philadelphia, PA 19111

Widows and Widowers Bereavement

Support Group: Meets biweekly for 9 sessions, two times a year (fall and spring).

Adults Who Have Lost a Parent or Sib-

ling: Meets weekly for 9 sessions, two times a year (fall and spring).

For information and to register for either of these groups, contact Rhoda Goldstein at 215-728-3014.

Penn Hospice & Caring Way Services

150 Monument Rd.

Bala Cynwyd, PA 19004

Various bereavement groups offered in various locations. Contact Maureen Erdlen at 610-617-2400.

Adults Who Have Lost A Parent: meets the 2nd Tuesday of the month at 150 Monument Rd.; Bala Cynwyd, PA 19004, from 6:00 to 7:30 pm. Pre-registration required; contact Maureen Erdlen at 610-617-2400.

FUNERAL HOMES

These Funeral Homes have programs which are conducted by

The Counseling Network for Loss & Transition

808 Bethlehem Pike

Erdenheim, PA 19038

215-624-8190

The Counseling Network can be called for additional information on future sites and programs.

Bucks County

Dougherty Funeral Home, Inc.
2200 Trenton Road
Levittown, PA 19056

Widows & Widowers Bereavement Support Group: meets six Wednesday afternoons in the fall and spring from 1:30 to 2:45 pm.

General Bereavement Support Group: meets on the 3rd Wednesday from 7:00-8:30 pm. For information contact Deborah Gawthrop at 215-624-8190 or dgawthrocnlt@verizon.net.

Philadelphia County

Koller Funeral Home
6835 Ridge Avenue
Philadelphia, PA 19128

Widows and Widowers Support Group: meets six Tuesday afternoons in the fall and spring from 1:30-2:45 pm. For information, contact Deborah Gawthrop at 215-624-8190 or dgawthrocnlt@verizon.net.

Lambie Funeral Home
Rhawn Street and Rowland Avenue
Philadelphia, PA 19136

General Bereavement Support Group: meet on the 1st Wednesday from October through June from 7:00-8:30 pm. For information contact Deborah Gawthrop at

215-624-8190 or dgawthropicnl
@verizon.net.

COMMUNITY SECULAR GROUPS

Compassionate Friends

An organization offering friendship, love and understanding to bereaved parents and their families. For more information and to locate a local group, call 877-969-0010 or see the website at www.compassionatefriends.org.

Families of Murder Victims Program

For information call 215-686-8078 or 215-686-8033.

Mommy's Light

Our mission is to bring joy to young people by keeping alive a tradition or simple pleasure they shared with their recently deceased mother.

For information call 610-725-9790 or www.mommyslight.org.

First Candle (formerly SIDS Alliance)

An organization that supports families that have experienced the death of a baby due to Sudden Infant Death Syndrome and other types of infant death. For information, call 1-800-221-7437 or see <http://www.firstcandle.org/>.

Survivors of Suicide, Inc.

Grief Support Groups for those who lost

a loved one to suicide: For information

For more information and to locate a local

group, call 215-545-2242 or Pat Lufkin

(215-945-0661 or lufkin26@aol.com) or

see website at <http://phillysos.tripod.com/>.

To Live Again

Support group for widows and widowers.

For local chapters call 610-353-7740.

UNITE, Inc.

Grief Support: Nationwide group for par-

ents/families of miscarriage, stillborn, and

infant death. For more information and to

locate a local group, call 1-888-48UNITE,

or administrator@unitegriefsupport.org, or

see website at www.unitegriefsupport.org.

Bucks County

Gilda's Club

200 Kirk Rd.

Warminster, PA 18974

www.gildasclubdelval.org

**Living With Grief (bereavement support
group for people who have lost someone**

due to cancer): meets 1st and 3rd Thurs-
days from 6:30-8:30 pm. For information,
call 215-441-3290.

Chester County

Upper Main Line YMCA
1416 Berwyn-Paoli Road
Berwyn, PA

Young Widows and Widowers Support Group: sessions for widows and widowers under 50, or for those with young children, are held the following Tuesdays from 7:30 - 9 pm: Sept. 8, 15, 22, & 29, Oct. 6 & 13, 2009, and Mar. 9, 16, & 23, Apr. 6, 13, & 20, 2010. For information, call Sandra King at 610-896-5720.

Montgomery County

The Center for Loss and Bereavement
3847 Skippack Pike
P.O. Box 1299
Skippack, PA 19474
www.bereavementcenter.org

The Center Offers the Following Support Groups and Programs:

- **Young Widows and Widowers Support Group (45 and under)**
- **Mature Widows and Widowers Support Group (over 45)**
- **Adult Loss of a Parent**
- **Loss of a Child that was an older teen or adult**
- **Men's Support Group for Loss of Spouse**
- **Motherless Daughters (for women)**

age 21 & older who've lost their mother)

- **Loss of a Sibling**
- **Young Adult Loss** (For adults post high-school through late 20's who have experienced the loss of a loved one.)
- **Support for Suicide Loss**
- **Adult Loss of a Sibling**
- **Parents of Murdered Children**
- **Children and Teens Grief Support Program**
- **Companions for the Holidays**
- **More**

For information on any of these or other groups held, for dates and times, and to register, call 610-222-4110.

