



Presentations for Clergy and Pastoral Ministers: A Catholic Response to Domestic Violence

Catholics for Family Peace Education and Research Initiative

www.catholicsforfamilypeace.org,

Description: Increase your understanding of domestic violence, identify opportunities to address this issue in parishes, and learn how to respond appropriately when people come for help. Gain practical ideas to raising awareness in the parish community and promoting healthy relationships in the home and/or workplace. This fee-based program can be tailored to fit any timeframe, from a 30-minute overview to a half-day seminar with skills practice and homily planning.

Participants will learn

- What they need to know about Domestic Violence
- How to address Domestic Violence in their ministries
- Where to refer people when they turn to the priest, deacon, or staff member
- Practical steps they, their staffs, and their parishioners can take

Catholics For Family Peace Education and Research Initiative provides education, resources, and research that help pastoral leaders recognize domestic abuse and respond with compassion.

Presenters: **Sharon O'Brien, Ph.D.**, Co-Founder and Director of Catholics For Family Peace Education and Research Initiative, is an international presenter, researcher, and author on the faith response to domestic violence.

Lauri Przybysz, D.Min., Education Director and Faculty Associate, has given presentations about marriage preparation, healthy relationships and domestic violence to clergy, seminarians, parents, and parish ministers nationally and internationally. <mailto:catholicsforfamilypeace@gmail.com>

Program Elements:

- Domestic Violence, facts and myths
- Identifying the need for Clergy and Staff education about Domestic Violence
- Data on the scope of the problem
- Religion: Resource or Roadblock?
- Catholic teaching on Marriage and how it relates to this topic
- Positive approaches to promoting strong marriages and families
- Roots of abuse and how to help
- Guidance for preaching
- Who are the victims? Who are the abusers?
- Scriptural context for pastoral care of abused and abuser
- Understanding the Cycle of Abuse
- Recognizing the signs of abuse
- Identifying community agencies that help and how to refer
- Skills practice
- Case Studies/Survivors' stories

Contact: Director, Sharon O'Brien, Ph.D. 301-651-8190

<mailto:sharon@catholicsforfamilypeace.org>