



Minute of Mercy

GRIEVING

“He will wipe every tear from their eyes, and there shall be no more death or mourning, wailing or pain, [for] the old order has passed away.” [Rev. 21:4]

Grief is a human emotion all people experience at one time or another in our lives. Grief is felt for a variety of reasons. It can be very difficult when a close friend or family member moves away; learning someone we love has a debilitating disease; or when a child no longer practices his/her Catholic faith. One way of feeling grief, one we will most commonly endure at some point in our lives, is felt at the death of a loved one.

*Separation from a loved one causes much heartache, and for so many, such a loss leaves them inconsolable. Even Jesus in His human nature had undergone such affliction when He lamented over Jerusalem (Matt 23: 37-39). However, the Lord does not leave us in such times of distress. He comes to our aid with the graces of strength and consolation. Especially in times of sorrow, we must turn to our faith in God and seek refuge in Him. It’s been said often, “If He brings you **to it**, He will bring you **through it**.” We know the promise of Jesus that in Him, with Him and through Him, we shall have eternal life. And though we die in our bodies, our souls are immortal. As stated in our Apostles Creed, on the last day, the Lord will raise our bodies and they will be glorified. And so with our faith in Jesus Christ and our hope in Him, let us pray that He shall bring us all to our Heavenly Home where we will be reunited with our loved ones, never to be separated again.*

During this Year of Mercy, let’s examine two ministries we have here at St. Peter Parish for the dying and recently deceased parishioners:

- 11th hour Ministry - when informed of a dying or recently deceased parishioner, calls are made to at least 3 praying ministers who are asked to pray
- Bereavement Ministry - provides meals for the bereaved family following the funeral services

Information on both of these ministries can be found in the bulletin, the website, or on our new St. Peter Parish app. You may also call the rectory at 985-892-2422.

Mercy in Action

*This week’s **Mercy in Action** is for all of St. Peter Parish to reach out to someone who is grieving perhaps with a phone call, email or visit.*

DON’T FORGET – Please check out the Year of Mercy table in the back of church for additional information on the Year of Mercy, prayer cards, and flyers pertaining to topics from our weekly Minute of Mercy.