Today’s fast paced society provides little time, space or support for those who have suffered loss. “Come to the Well” is a day of hope and restoration for anyone who has suffered the loss of a loved one: parents, children, siblings, spouse, etc. This includes loss by suicide, accidental death, infertility, miscarriage, illness, stillbirth, SIDS, adoption placement, abortion, and other life losses.

The day is filled with prayer utilizing meditation “Living Scripture,” music, journaling and personal sharing to honor and embrace the reality of shared loss. “Come to the Well” offers opportunities for retreatants to find strength in the sharing to move through the losses of life with hope for a renewed vision.

Your privacy and confidentiality will be observed.

INVITATION

November 6, 2021

Jesus, Font of Living Water says, “Come, all you who are weary, broken, and find life burdensome, and I will give you rest.” Matthew 11:28

PRESENTERS

Most Reverend J. Douglas Deshotel, D.D.
Bishop J. Douglas Deshotel was installed April 15, 2016 as the seventh Bishop of the Diocese of Lafayette. Most Reverend J. Douglas Deshotel, D.D., attended Immaculata Minor Seminary High School in Lafayette and continued his studies in Texas, earning a B.A. in Philosophy at Holy Trinity Seminary and then a Masters of Divinity at the University of Dallas. Following his 1978 ordination to the priesthood for the Diocese of Dallas, he was assigned to various church parishes as associate pastor and pastor. Additionally, he served as the Vice Rector of Holy Trinity Seminary in Irving, Texas, the Diocesan Presbyteral Council, the Diocesan Priests’ Personnel Board, the Diocesan Finance Council, and numerous other positions in administration and personnel areas. He was ordained in 2010 as Auxiliary Bishop of Dallas, where he served until his appointment to the Diocese of Lafayette.

Deacon Barney Lejeune
Deacon Barney and his wife Paula suffered the loss of their daughter, Andiswa Botho, to suicide in 2014, which lead to his involvement with the Jacob Crouch Suicide Prevention Services where he served as Executive Director. Deacon Barney will deliver a message regarding the “Woman at the Well.” Deacon Barney currently serves at St. Jules Catholic Church in Lafayette.

Adrienne Mejias
Jason and Adrienne have been married since 2001 and have 2 living children. Adrienne is a Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist in private practice, and Jason is the facility supervisor at the Episcopal School of Acadiana. Over the past year, Jason and Adrienne became certified in the Grief Recovery Method (GRM). They will talk about their experiences with child loss and how the GRM brought about healing that neither imagined was possible.

Trista Miller Littell
Trista has been married to Benny Littell for 42 years and they have 3 children and 9 grandchildren. She is the former program coordinator of the Office of Pro-Life Apostolate. After twenty years of employment with the Diocese of Lafayette, she retired this year. Trista was part of the first (2003) and all subsequent “Come to the Well” retreat teams. She and her former director, Karol Meynard, began offering another bereavement ministry in the Diocese of Lafayette in 2004 called Rachel’s Vineyard for healing after abortion. Thirty five Rachel’s Vineyard Retreats have now been offered to those who never had the chance to grieve the loss of their child/children to abortion and/or miscarriage. This year Project Joseph, a new program exclusively for men seeking healing after abortion was offered through the Diocese of Lafayette. Trista will share some personal experiences as she journeyed through the dying process with her father, brother, friends, and most recently, her dear friend and former director, Karol Meynard.

Bishop Douglas Deshotel
Deacon Barney Lejeune
Adrienne and Jason Mejias
Trista Miller Littell

Photo by Cathy Bourque

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Co-Dependent Recovery Meetings
A fellowship of men and women whose common purpose is to develop healthy relationships. Meetings are held each Thursday from 12:00 – 1:00 p.m. except Diocesan Holidays. Call (337) 261.5598 for more information.

Compassionate Friends
Support group for anyone who has suffered the loss of a child. Held 3rd Monday of the month @ 6:30 p.m. St. Barnabas Episcopal Church - Camelia Blvd., Lafayette Contact: Robin Landry (337) 261.5584

Elizabeth Ministry Support Group
Christian support for the childbearing years. (Fertility, pregnancy, birth, adoption, infertility, crisis or special needs, miscarriage, stillbirth, infant or child death.) elizabethministry.com

Maddie’s Footprints
Help for families who have experienced miscarriages, stillbirths or the loss of an infant. Directs families when they are in need of information and/or counseling. Financial assistance offered for end-of-life expenses and/or medical expenses. Phone: (337) 534-4209

Red Bird Ministries
Catholic, pro-life and pro-family grief support ministry that focuses on bereaved families who have experienced child loss of any age. All founders and families have experienced child loss and understand the magnitude of a be-reaved parent’s suffering. www.redbirdlove

Healing House
Provides support and education for grieving children, their caregivers, and the Acadiana Community.

Support Groups
Preparation to Say Goodbye” Anticipatory Support Group for children and families who are preparing for the loss of a loved one. Group meets every other Monday (337) 234.0443

Hospice of Acadiana
The Center for Loss and Transition offers counseling, support groups, and education. Contact: Heather Projean 2600 Johnson St.—Lafayette, LA 70503 (337) 232.1234

www.hospiceacadiana.com

Project Rachel, Project Joseph, and Rachel’s Vineyard Retreats
Post Abortion Healing — www.rachelsvineyard.org

Diocese of Lafayette—Office of Pro Life Apostolate—1408 Carmel Dr., Lafayette, LA 70501-5215

Call (337)261.5598 or (337)261.5607 - kchapman@diolaf.org

Survivor of Suicide Support Group
The Family Tree & The Jacob Couch Suicide Prevention Services sponsors support groups that are especially tailored for survivors of suicide. Contact The Family Tree

Registration Form: “Come to The Well” A Day of Hope and Restoration to be held at Immaculata Center - 1408 Carmel Dr., Lafayette, LA

Rev. 4/22/2021

Please place a checkmark in one of the blocks below indicating which area of loss you have suffered or the loss you are in most need of addressing at this time.

☐ Loss of an Unborn Infant
☐ Loss of a Child or Grandchild (including stillbirth)
☐ Loss by Suicide

☐ infertlity, ☐ miscarriage, ☐ abortion, ☐ other
☐ minor __ (age) or adult ____ years old
☐ Other Losses: ☐ Aunt/Uncle, ☐ Niece/Nephew
☐ Other

☐ Other:

How did you hear about “Come to The Well”?

Link for online registration: https://secure.acceptiva.com/?cst=elQcnF

If mailing registration, remittance & registration information are to be mailed to:

Diocece of Lafayette, Office of Pro Life Apostolate
1408 Carmel Drive- Lafayette, LA 70501-5215

Phone: (337) 261-5598 or (337) 261.5607

$35/person (including lunch). Payment required by October 30, 2021

Checks payable to: DOL—Office of Pro Life Apostolate

Registrant’s Name

Address

City/State/Zip

Phone/Home/Cell

Email Address

Church Name/City

Pastor

COMMENTS FROM FORMER PARTICIPANTS

“I found the day spiritually refreshing in the midst of my grief. Healing grace was given to me through the speakers and the reenactment of Jesus and the Samaritan Woman at the Well”.

“The testimonies of those who have shared similar grief gave me hope that life continues and I am not alone. The day reinforced to me that God is real. God is active, and God is working in my life.”

“I was so happy I was not the only man. It was interesting and I didn’t want to leave. I will be at future retreats.”

“There was a holy peace prevalent throughout the day, even amidst the pain. I am confident it was due to the shared suffering, united to Christ.”