

**SPIRITUAL SOLACE
For Those Who Suffer
from Addiction and Thirst for God**

ADDICTION is a defining crisis of our time. It's a problem that affects countless individuals, families, parishes, and diocese across the country and leads to a range of serious physiological and mental health problems. Ultimately, however, the desolation, abandonment, and guilt that define the addicted life are in many ways spiritual problems that require a spiritual remedy.

The iTHIRST Initiative seeks to provide a remedy to those suffering from addiction by offering programs to educate and prevent, provide support to treatment facilities and those who are incarcerated, and develop an aftercare community for the afflicted and their families.

We take our name from two of the last words of Christ on the Cross, words that also appear in every chapel of the Missionaries of Charity, St. Teresa of Calcutta's order.

About Our Organization:

The Missionary Servants of the Most Holy Trinity is a congregation of Catholic Priests and Brothers founded in 1921 by the American Vincentian priest, Reverend Thomas A. Judge.

Our Missionaries work with the poor and abandoned, wherever the need preservation of the faith is greatest. Among the poor and abandoned are those who suffer from addictions, and their families.

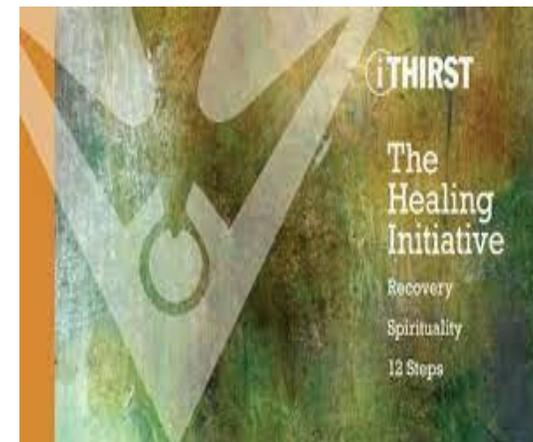
For parishes and dioceses seeking effective ways to help communities impacted by the scourge of addiction, iTHIRST offers a comprehensive, faith-based process. Through our flexible training programs, we prepare the laity and clergy to serve as qualified Spiritual Companions to addicted individual and their families thirsting for relief.



iTHIRST INITIATIVE

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**iTHIRST
INITIATIVE**

Spiritual Companions

*Certified through the Seton Hall
University School of Continuing
Education in conjunction with the
Archdiocese of Newark, NJ*



MELINDA PAPACCIO
*i*THIRST Spiritual Companion

I have been a lifelong member of Holy Family parish and, in my service as Eucharistic Minister and Lector, I have been pleased to get to know many of you. I am a mother of three and a grandmother. I teach at Seton Hall University and expect to soon make my act of consecration as missionary of Our Lady of Hope Cenacle with the Missionary Servants of the Most Holy Trinity. I am a member of the ITHIRST Initiative and am committed to helping those suffering from addiction and their families because my own beloved son, Nunzio, died from an overdose. I know firsthand that this is a devastating disease and that spiritual healing is critical to recovery.

Contact me at:
melinda.papaccio@shu.edu
or call or text 973-868-1938

We, your ITHIRST Spiritual Companions, are available for private, confidential and anonymous discussions intended for spiritual consolation and guidance to navigate the challenges of addiction for you or someone you love. These confidential discussions can be in person, on the phone or thru video conferencing.

"I knew these were people I needed to be with. I never had a real sense of spirituality, or of who God was. But I thought "These people know God well, and I have to find Him too." -- (Jessica, a recovering heroin user and mother of two, who attended an ITHIRST retreat.)



CATHERINE VIEIRA,
*i*THIRST Spiritual Companion

I am a retired Nurse who worked for over 20 years in the field of addiction. I became certified as a Perinatal Addiction Specialist as well as a Certified Addiction RN. I worked in all aspects of addiction: detox, rehab, therapeutic community, perinatal methadone maintenance, as well as a recovery program for nurses. I am a widow and mother of two daughters, and grandmother of two granddaughters. I have been a parishioner of Holy Family for approximately 10 years. I am excited that our Archdiocese is launching this initiative to help those suffering from the disease of addiction as well as their families.

contact me @ cvieira520@aol.com or
call or text: 201-968-6487