

Welcome Catholic Home: A Six Week Process for those who have drifted away from the practice of their Catholic Faith.

Several times a year we begin a six week process for those who are interested in returning to the practice of their Catholic faith.

To Those Who Have Left

People leave the church for many reasons. Perhaps you were unhappy with a particular Church teaching, or the way a particular church teaching was applied to a situation in your life. Maybe you had a disagreement with a member of the church staff. Or you weren't asked to be part of a particular committee. Perhaps you just didn't feel like any one noticed if you were there or not. You just did not feel like you belonged.

For others it might not be so obvious why you left. You just got out of the practice. Life was too hectic and Sunday was the only day to sleep in a little and catch up with the week. Sometimes it seems like you just drifted away.

Whatever the reason, we are here missing you. Leaving the 'church' is leaving us, the people of God. This leaves a hole in our soul. This leaves an empty space at our table. We are not complete. All of our brothers and sisters are not here. Our parish life is incomplete because you are not with us.

Our Church Community of Faith is similar to family life. Like all families we have our differences. Sometimes something happens and we are no longer connected, related. We drift away from seeing one another, or someone says something and we are left hurting. Sometimes we find it difficult to believe everything that is taught. But eventually we sit down and talk to one another.

An Invitation

We would like to invite you to join us for a six week process to talk about the reasons that you left and see where the church is today. There would be no obligation or pressure - just an opportunity to share your stories of why you left and where you are now. We would like to share our stories of faith with you.

The process will include six sessions on such topics as concepts of God and Jesus, the Church, the Bible, Catholic values, Conscience Formation, and the Sacraments. But mostly, the sessions are about listening to your experience and honoring your journey.

Our Church Community of Faith is our compass that points us in the right direction. It is a place where we love, discuss, discover, rejoice, cry, and get angry over issues of our faith, over the injustices of the world. Here we form bonds to journey together. Through our baptism we become sisters and brothers in Christ and members of the local and universal Church. It is our home in faith.

We would like to invite you to come home.

For more information, please call Sister Pat @ 264-5071, email her at spt@sacredheartchurch.info, or check our website at www.sacredheartchurch.info

Parishioners of Sacred Heart Church: What can you do?

We all know people who left the church and did not look back. We all know people who are alone on their journey and don't know how to come back. We may be related to them, work with them, shop with them, dine with them. And we don't know what to do.

What can you do? Let the people know that our parish has this process available. They may want to come back but don't know how. They may just need to see how things are now in the parish life. There is no commitment - just a time to 'come and see'. Too many people are suffering because they are alone on this journey.

You know what you have found at Sacred Heart Church – a warm and welcoming community of faith that is vibrant in its outreach. We know that Sacred Heart Church has something to offer. Let us extend an invitation to those we know who are journeying alone. Let us pledge our prayerful support for those who are seeking a way home.

Sister Pat

SYLLABUS

SESSION 1:	WHAT IS IT ABOUT THE CHURCH?
SESSION 2:	CONCEPTS OF GOD AND JESUS AND THE CHURCH
SESSION 3:	FAITH AND CONVERSION
SESSION 4:	CATHOLIC VALUES, VATICAN II AND CONSCIENCE FORMATION
SESSION 5:	SACRAMENTS
SESSION 6:	RECONCILING SERVICE