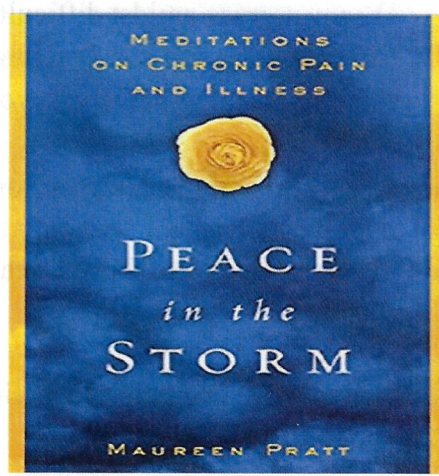


Peace in the Storm

A Parish Ministry to Accompany the Suffering
~ Diocese of Bridgeport ~

**a Spiritual parish-based program to help those
with physical and emotional suffering.**

**Based on the Book by Maureen Pratt,
Founder and Creator of the Peace in the Storm Project**



This Parish-Led Ministry:

- ~ **Provides Group Support and Connection to those who Suffer**
- ~ **Requires no direct Clergy involvement for Sessions**
- ~ **Has no cost to parish or participants**
- ~ **Is simple to establish, develop, and grow**

**The Diocese of Bridgeport Peace in the Storm Team, with author
Maureen Pratt, will assist parishes in developing their ministry.**

Answer the Call: Become a "Peace in the Storm" Facilitator!

Do you have a heart for those living with ongoing illness or chronic pain in our parish?

Do you recognize the isolation and profound questions of faith they often face amidst daily challenges?

You can bring comfort and hope to those who Suffer!

We're seeking compassionate individuals to lead "Peace in the Storm," our parish-based small group ministry. This program offers vital spiritual support and connection, creating a welcoming space for shared reflection. No experience necessary! We will provide the training; the Book & Discussion Guide will foster conversation.

What is "Peace in the Storm?" Grounded in Maureen Pratt's devotional book, *Peace in the Storm: Meditations on Chronic Pain and Illness*, this ministry guides participants to explore scripture, Catholic teachings, prayer, and the wisdom of shared lived experiences. It helps individuals move beyond mere coping to discover true comfort, lasting hope, and inner peace, understanding the deeper meaning of healing.

Your Impact as a Facilitator: As a Leader, you will guide others to:

- **Find Welcoming Community:** Connect with others who truly understand.
- **Experience Spiritual Growth:** Explore faith through their unique experiences.
- **Engage in Shared Reflection:** Discover grace amidst difficult questions.
- **Receive Practical Support:** Navigate isolation and find inner peace.
- **Focus on Deeper Healing:** Explore meaning perhaps beyond physical cures.

Simple to Lead, Powerful in Impact: This ministry is designed for lay leadership, making it easy to initiate in our parish. With minimal clergy or staff involvement, and only the book purchase (approx. \$15) for members, you can offer vital comfort and long-term support to those often unseen in their suffering within our community.

Make a Real Difference. If you feel called to serve and help others find "Peace in the Storm," we invite you to learn more about becoming a facilitator.

Ministry Initiation – Simple Steps to Establish a Ministry at your Parish

1. Select 1-2 group leaders who will guide members through the "Peace in the Storm" book & discussion guide
2. Contact our team (see below) and we will arrange a video meeting with author Maureen Pratt
3. Gather a few initial members interested in a spiritual means and accompaniment to cope with suffering
4. Select a small, accessible meeting room at the Parish
5. Develop a meeting schedule (1-2 meeting per month is recommended)

Theologically sound, practical, spiritual support for those who suffer.

This Ministry will make a Meaningful Difference in the lives of those who are suffering.

For More information or to begin a Peace in the Storm ministry at your parish, please contact both:

Deacon Tim Bolton, Director of Accompaniment: dnbolton@diobpt.org / 203-416-1403

Steven Filizzola, Special Assistant to the Bishop: Sfilizzola@dipbpt.org / 203-416-1353