



## **"Surviving Divorce" Facilitator Training Course**

There's no such thing as "Catholic divorce" but civil divorce for Catholics is a sad reality. "Surviving Divorce" is a program to encourage healing through the Sacraments where the participants personally encounter Christ with all His love and tender mercies. Those who need healing from civil divorce or separation want to learn how to rebuild their lives. There is hope through experiencing the love & mercy of Jesus Christ through His church and people.

Whatever circumstance ends a marriage, a spouse is left behind and a family is forever changed. In addition to dealing with overwhelming emotions, financial and family problems, huge numbers of separated and divorced Catholics:

- Stop attending Mass or leave the Church completely
- Ignore - or misunderstand - the teachings of the Catholic Church regarding separation and divorce
- Do not realize the deep healing power that lies within the Church

This 12-week DVD/discussion program is based on the teachings of the Catholic Church and is open to anyone who needs comfort, counsel, and clarity after divorce. Topics include:

- The spiritual life and the teachings of the Catholic Church on separation and divorce
- Fear, anger, depression and loneliness
- Financial issues
- Court battles, parenting, custody and visitation
- Church annulment
- Singleness, dating again, remarriage, sex, and chastity

Experts in the DVD series include Rose Sweet, Surviving Divorce producer and author of Healing the Divorced Heart; Dr. Ray Guarendi, clinical psychologist, Catholic author, and host of Ave Maria Radio's The Doctor Is In; Fr. Mitch Pacwa, priest, biblical scholar, and author; Fr. Donald Calloway, priest, author, and popular EWTN host; Fr. Steve Porter, priest, biblical scholar, and spiritual director; and Christopher West, Catholic speaker and expert on St. John Paul II's Theology of the Body. It also includes personal testimonies of Catholic men and women who have experienced the breakdown of their families. They courageously share their stories with heart, humor, and wisdom.

This one-day training is for any clergy, religious, permanent deacon, pastoral staff member or layperson chosen by his or her parish to facilitate the program. This session will offer in-depth instruction on all aspects of advertising, facilitating and administering the program. The processes of grief, loss and transition are emphasized, as are listening and communication skills. Facilitator must meet diocesan safety requirements.

To bring this program to your parish, contact certified trainer, Michele Coppola-Wilson:  
[healfromdivorcetoday@gmail.com](mailto:healfromdivorcetoday@gmail.com); 201-753-8485.