THE OFFICE OF Child & Youth PROTECTION

Illuminations

SEPTEMBER-OCTOBER 2011

Catholic Archdiocese of Atlanta • OCYP Newsletter

CONTACT INFO

Address
2401 Lake Park Dr. SE
Smyrna, GA 30080

Main Phone Number
404-920-7550

FAX
404-920-7551

Jennifer Broel
404-920-7553
Director
Safe Environment Program
jbroel@archatl.com

Sue Stubbs MS, NCC
404-920-7554
Director
Victim Assistance Program
sstubbs@archatl.com

WEBPAGE
www.archatl.com/offices/ocyp/

24 Hour Reporting Hotline

888-437-0764

If reporting during regular business hours, call us directly first. If you cannot reach us in person, call the hotline.

OCYP National Office

Deacon Bernard V. Nojadera, of the Diocese of San Jose, California, and director of the diocese's Office for the Protection of Children and Vulnerable Adults, has been named head of the U.S. bishops' Secretariat for Child and Youth Protection. He begins his position August 15 and succeeds Teresa Kettelkamp, who has headed the office since 2005.

Deacon Nojadera, ordained in 2008, has headed the San Jose diocesan child protection office since 2002. Prior to that he was pastoral associate, in St. Mary's Parish, Gilroy, CA. He is married with two children. He served as commissioned officer with the U.S. Navy Reserves and has served with the U.S. Marine Corps and the Army National Guard. Deacon Nojadera was awarded a bachelor of arts degree from St. Joseph College 1984; a master of social work degree specializing in health and mental health services from San Jose State University in 1991; and a master of arts in theology from St. Patrick's Seminary and University in 2002. He has been a member of the Diocese of San Jose Safe Environment Task Force, the San Jose Police Department's Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force, the YWCA Rape Crisis Center and their Child Assault Prevention Program, and the County of Santa Clara Interfaith Clergy Project for Elder Abuse Prevention.

Msgr. David Malloy, general secretary of the USCCB, made the appointment. "Deacon Nojadera brings to this position valuable experience from many areas," Msgr. Malloy said. "He is a family man and trained social worker, who is familiar with the church both at the parish and diocesan level and with law enforcement. He understands the need for child protection services in all areas."

Safe Environment Program

Safe Environment training is to be renewed every five (5) years for all Church Personnel. The Office of Safe Environment strongly recommends that you hold a training session at your parish/school at least once every six months for all new volunteers or those coming up for renewal. In addition, all new hire employees and independent contractors must have an approved background screen on file before they are hired.

Victim Assistance

The Trauma Recovery Group for male and female adult survivors of childhood trauma is being offered Tuesday evenings 6:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. beginning September 20, 2011. Registration deadline is September 9th.

Location: Cathedral of Christ the King ♦ 2699 Peachtree Road, NE ♦ Atlanta 30305
Dates: 9 Sessions: Every Tuesday night ♦ September 20 – November 15, 2011
Cost: $25 per session (partial scholarships available)
Group Leaders: Dr. Ann Howe, PhD and Sue Stubbs MS, NCC
Please contact Sue Stubbs at 404-920-7554 or sstubbs@archatl.com to register.
For more detailed information see the flyer on the website at:
www.archatl.com/offices/ocyp/vassistance/pdfs/Trauma_Group_Flyer.pdf.

Feature Article

Ten Things Victim/Survivors Taught Us

National Review Board • United States Conference of Catholic Bishops • Washington, D.C.

1. We've learned that it takes great courage for a victim/survivor to come forward with his or her story after years, sometimes decades, of silence and feelings of shame.
2. We have learned that to the victim/survivor it is so important to finally simply be believed.
3. We have learned that, in spite of their own pain and suffering, many victim/survivors are just as concerned that the Church prevents this abuse from happening to more children as they are about themselves and their own needs for healing.
4. We have learned that, while each individual's story is different, what is common is the violation of trust; some survivors trust absolutely no one, to this day, while others have been able to work through this pain with the help and support of loved ones.
5. We have learned that today there are methods of therapy that work particularly well with and for survivors of childhood sexual abuse and that individuals can be helped even after many years of unsuccessfully trying to simply "forget about it."
6. We have learned that very many victim/survivors have lived for many years with the belief that they were the "only one" to have been abused by a particular priest.
7. We have learned that the abuse has robbed some victim/survivors of their faith. For some this means loss of their Catholic faith, but for others it means loss of any faith in a God at all.
8. We have learned that, while some victim/survivors have been unable to succeed in various areas of life (marriage, employment, education, parenting, etc.) as a consequence of the great emotional/psychological harm, others have gone on to lead very healthy and productive lives. We have learned that between those two "ends of a continuum" there is as much variation as there are numbers of victims.
9. We have learned that to be privileged to hear an individual victim/survivor's story is a sacred trust, to be received with great care and pastoral concern.
10. We have learned that we still have much to learn.

The National Review Board is an advisory group of 13 laypersons with expertise in such areas as law, education, media, and psychological sciences. The board was established in 2002, when the U.S. bishops adopted the *Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People* to oversee efforts of the Office for Child and Youth Protection. The National Review Board is responsible for a three-year Causes and Context Study being undertaken by the John Jay College of Criminal Justice and due for release in 2011. The study looks at the clergy sexual abuse of minors problem to ascertain what factors led to it and how it can be prevented going forward.

From: http://new.usccb.org/issues-and-action/child-and-youth-protection/ten-things-victims-survivors-taught-us.cfm

RESOURCE CORNER

Should you choose to do additional training on awareness of child abuse and the effect it has on victims, here is a great resource to turn to…they have many workshops and speakers available to help out at your parish.

www.voicetoday.org– Victory Over Incest Changes Everyone (V.O.I.C.E.) addresses the silence that surrounds the issue of sexual abuse to those who have been sexually abused by family, friend, acquaintance, or community leader through prevention, awareness education and healing…a VOICE of healing to survivors, of protection to children, and of prevention to adults.

Additional resources can be found on the Office of Child & Youth Protection webpage at http://www.archatl.com/offices/ocyp/generalresources.html