

Hope for Healing Ministry: for Families Experiencing Estrangement

Parent-adult child estrangement, characterized by a sustained physical or emotional distance, or both, is on the rise. Five years ago, a study of 561 later-life families in Massachusetts in the US conducted by Megan Gilligan, a sociologist at Iowa State University, found that one in 10 mothers reported being estranged from at least one of their children. More and more sources exist to help estranged families reconcile or if that is not possible at the moment, survive the pain. One excellent source is Dr. Joshua Coleman (<https://www.drjoshuacoleman.com>) author of *When Parents Hurt*.

While information to understand we are not alone and how estrangement could happen in our family is of real value, we also need **divine assistance** because creating division, resisting reconciliation, and being swamped by regrets and confusion is not from God nor what God wants for us.

Pilgrim Catholic Collaborative now has a ministry of prayer and presence for families hurt by an estrangement. Pope Francis exhorts us continually in his encyclicals, *Do not let yourself be robbed of hope*, so we are calling this ministry **Hope for Healing** and trust that God will use our prayers and presence to heal our families. **Hope for Healing** will be held over **Zoom from 7:00 - 8:00 pm every Wednesday beginning November 11**. Members of families experiencing estrangement are welcome to join us whenever they can. We will begin with the prayer of the Rosary, then we will be present to each other's stories and prayer requests (no advice, just listening), and end with the Novena written by Friar Dolindo Ruotolo, *O Jesus I Surrender Myself to You*.

Information needed to participate in this ministry:

When: Every Wednesday evening, 7-8 pm, starting Nov. 11
How: Zoom
Topic: Hope for Healing
Time: Beginning Nov 11, 2020
07:00 PM - 8PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Zoom Meeting Link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86539480558?pwd=SURjUkMzUnduUGE1WWFCcWtRMENqQT09>

Meeting ID: 865 3948 0558

Passcode: 260402