



Parish & Diocese Proposal

Purpose: [Red Bird Ministries](#) serves ordinary families who have been given an extraordinary cross to carry.

An organization that systematically guides individuals and couples through the complexity and trauma that happens with the loss of a child from pregnancy through adulthood.

[Parish/Diocese Information](#)

The Audience

Families of Child Loss from pregnancy through adulthood and clergy who are willing to support them through the process of healing.

How can Red Bird Support Help Parishioners:

- We equip leaders to walk with families of loss by giving them the resources and tools they need, as well as the support to serve hearts.
- We provide families of loss with Catholic programs and materials as well as support opportunities to heal.

- Red Bird Ministries has a branded app for parishes to direct families of loss to.
 - Inside the app you will find the support families of loss need as well as their support system. (friends, family, and clergy)
 - Grief Courses
 - Community (Loss Groups)
 - Prayer Resources: Daily Reading, Prayer Intentions, Resources, and more
 - Virtual Support: Comfort Calls, Spiritual Direction, Retreats, Webinars, Workshops, and more
 - Premium Content: To dive deeper into support

How can Red Bird Support Clergy:

- App: There is a course for clergy and support small group to walk with other clergy members.
 - We partner with our clergy and grief partner to minister to families of loss, providing a more holistic approach.
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The Facilitators (Credentials)

One family of loss leader and a few volunteers to support the leaders. Anyone who sits with a family of loss should be a family of loss. The ministry can have a few volunteers to help with hospitality. Leaders are trained and onboarded by Red Bird Ministries. This is a part of their certification. Flock Leaders partner with Catholic Therapists and Spiritual Directors for breakout sessions at grief events (couples workshop or retreats). Also, our priest(s) offer sacraments.

Roles in the Ministry:

- **Who is the Chapter Advocate?** This person will be the point of contact for the diocese. Their primary role is raising awareness and answering questions that parochial leaders may have. (can be a family of loss but is not required)
- **Who is the Flock Leader?** This person(s) will be the point of contact at the host parish(es) when a loss occurs. Will modify flyer templates and share them with the diocese point of contact for distribution. (can be a family of loss but is not required)
- **Who are the companion couples/mentors?** This person(s) will be sitting with the families of loss at the grief events. (must be a family of loss) connected to a parish flock or diocese chapter.
- *It is possible that a person wears different hats. Meaning it is possible for you to be a chapter advocate, flock leader, and a companion couple or mentor.*

Meeting Locations & Frequency (Day/Evening): Each program has a different quantity of meetings. The leader should discuss location with their pastor.

- Grief Group (Finding the Passion of Christ in Our Story): 10 Sessions
- Couples Workshop (Loving through Loss): 1 Saturday
- Small Group (Lenten Journal, Hiding in the Upper Room, and Restoring Love): Based on the individual study session (average five sessions)

Financial Obligation

Certification and Training:

[Certifications](#)

- Chapter Advocate (Diocese) \$299 a year, per person
- Flock Leader (Parish) \$150 a year, per person

- Companion Couple & Mentors \$49 a year, per person
- Most chapters will start with (1) chapter advocate, (1) flock leader, and (1-2) companion couple/mentors.
- Includes: Chapter page and Chapter small group inside our branded app.

Training or Speaking Support Opportunities

- **Virtual Zoom Training:** \$750 for a 3-hour training session with the team of Red Bird Ministries
- **In-Person Training or Speaking Support Opportunity:** \$1,500 stipend and all travel expenses for the founders to fly up. One full day of training or support opportunities. (training, couples workshop, information session, retreat, etc.) Dioceses can partner with other dioceses to offer support or training opportunities together.

Material Cost:

- [Leader Bundle](#) \$299 for (1) bundle of leader's materials
- Grief Group Journal \$25
- Couples Workshop Guide \$20
- Lenten Journal \$25
- Restoring Love Journal \$39 (comes with four videos)
- Hiding in the Upper Room \$17
- *Certified Leaders receive a 10% discount on all printed materials.*

Who will pay for the materials:

Each chapter/flock is set up differently, and we will work with you to find the best solution.

- **Diocese Chapter Advocate:** The diocese usually pays for the Chapter Advocate's certification, leader bundle, and training. (see above)
- **Parish Flock Leader:** The parish usually pays for the flock leader's certifications and one leader's bundle.
- **Families of Loss:** The families of loss usually pay for their materials when attending a grief group or workshop.

Diocese and parish order in bulk and pass the cost to the family.

Parish Fundraising Options:

Bring families together with a common good and participate in the works of mercy, comforting the sorrowful.

- Bake Sale at your parish
 - Bring all the change in your junk drawer to Mass weekend
 - Host a raffle
 - Second Collection or basket outside after Mass, all proceeds go to the families in your parish that experienced loss. Allow your leader to share about the ministry and a little about why they want to start this ministry.
 - Contact Knights of Columbus/Catholic Daughters Association to partner with them to host a fundraiser.
 - Parish-wide garage sale
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Leader Support Opportunities

Leader Meetings and Support:

- Office Hours: Every Monday at 12 pm CST.
 - Monthly Leader Meeting: Every 3rd Thursday at 1:30 pm CST.
 - Small Group: Leader Group on the app
 - Onboarding: 3-part onboarding process for leaders. Leaders register, and we offer playback if they can't make it. These take place on Wednesdays at 12 pm CST.
 - Support by email or by phone during working hours.
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Implementation Schedule

Onboarding and strategic planning is provided by the Red Bird Ministries team. Below you will find an example of how we slowly implement support into a new diocese or parish.

Year 1:

- Mass of Remembrance
- (1) one grief event (couples workshop or grief group)
- Follow up with a small group (resources are available to a small group).

Year 2:

- Mass of Remembrance
- Couples Workshop
- Grief Group
- Follow up with a small group (resources are available to offer a small group).

Year 3:

- Mass of Remembrance
- Couples Workshop or Grief Group
- Retreat
- Follow up with a small group (resources are available to offer a small group).