



A Workshop for All Involved in Bereavement Ministry “Funerals and Beyond”

Sustaining the Journey, a workshop series endorsed by both the National Association of Pastoral Musicians and the American Guild of Organists, is an opportunity for all Liturgical Ministers to experience **renewal** and **refreshment**. With a combined 70+ years of liturgical ministry in the Diocese of Cleveland, presenters **Bob Soeder** and **Mary Hrich** bring with them a wealth of experience, knowledge, and music. Each workshop begins with a light meal, time for fellowship and prayer, and includes stories, singing, and a little learning along the way! Designed for **all who minister to the grieving**, this *Sustaining the Journey* event will leave you with food for thought and a renewed enthusiasm for liturgical ministry. **Come for the food – stay for the nourishment!**

The death of a loved one can present overwhelming grief, but is often a time of grace. We are reassured by our faith that this is not the end – and the bereavement process for a grieving family can be a turning point in their faith journey. **Funerals present a unique opportunity for evangelization. From planning the funeral to the service itself, to outreach in the following months, bereavement ministers are graced with the chance to affect a tremendous positive impact.** This workshop addresses some of the considerations specific to those who plan and prepare funeral celebrations, and provide care for those who grieve, including:

- Sharing our story – planning the funeral
- Music options and diocesan guidelines
- Suggestions for liturgical ministers
- Funeral programs/worship aids
- Addressing preconceived expectations
- Ministry beyond the funeral – death isn’t the end!
- Funeral luncheons
- Gatherings for those who have lost a loved one

Content can be customized to meet your organization’s specific needs.

Why *Sustaining the Journey*?

No matter the faith tradition, Church Ministers - both volunteer and paid professionals - are the lifeblood of the church. They give countless hours of time serving others...but who takes care of their needs? We all need to nurture our spirits, and *Sustaining the Journey* nourishes body and soul!

Sustaining the Journey workshops provide an opportunity for Church Musicians and Ministers to enjoy an evening of renewal and refreshment. Join with others who are passionate about caring for others and sharing their faith. Recharge your batteries, let someone else do the planning for a change, and enjoy an evening of food, fellowship, music, and inspiration. ***Sustaining the Journey* will leave you with food for thought and a renewed enthusiasm for your ministry.**

For more information, contact Bob or Mary:

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