



SAINT CATHERINE LABOURE CATHOLIC PARISH

Shrine of the Miraculous Medal PRAYING • BELIEVING • LIVING ...AS DISCIPLES

October 26, 2018

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ:

As we continue to seek **Paths to Hope and Healing**, it is important for us to keep praying together and talking with each other. The release of the Grand Jury Report has shocked us. This is a difficult time filled with a range of emotions. We need to feel them, be honest about them, and work through them.

Over the last several weeks, many parishioners have reached out to me to share their concerns about the clergy sexual abuse of children and the failure of Church leaders. I am grateful for those emails, letters, phone calls, and conversations. If you would like to talk with me and share your thoughts, please reach out to me. I would be humbled to listen and speak with you.

We have had special opportunities for communal prayer and conversation at **Parish Listening Forums** over the last several weeks. The time spent in prayer and conversation together was honest, open, and emotional and helped participants to articulate and process feelings, hurts, and hopes. The sharing and discussion responded to four questions:

- Where are you at with this?
- What are you feeling?
- What are you hearing?
- What are the paths forward?

Parish Listening Forum attendees suggested a similar opportunity be provided for our parishioners unable to attend one of the sessions or for whom a written format might work better. I agree with their recommendation and invite those who may be interested to share their thoughts, concerns, and insights by responding to those same questions on the back of this paper. When completed, please return your responses to the special box located at the Narthex Information Center (located at the top of the ramp outside the oratory) or to the parish office by November 11, 2018. Those who prefer to respond electronically may do so by clicking the **Paths to Hope and Healing** icon on our parish website [www.sclhbg.org] that will go live on Tuesday, October 30, 2018.

I, along with our Youth Protection Advisory Council and Parish Pastoral Council leadership, will read your responses to help find our path forward as a parish, and members of the larger Catholic community and provide resources and information that may be helpful for us as disciples. We hope to share the common themes and suggestions with the larger community.

I hope that we will continue together as a parish family, as we work our way through this; to be there for each other with support, listening, love, and prayer. I need your counsel and insights because you are the Church, the living stones that build the Body of Christ.

Again, please feel free to reach out to me at any time.

Let us continue to pray for victims and survivors, their families, the Church, and for each other.

Grace and peace to you!

Very Reverend Neil S. Sullivan, VF
Pastor

*Hear my cry, O God,
listen to my prayer!
From the ends of the earth I call ...
Raise me up ...
for you are my refuge ...
a tower of strength.*

Psalm 61:2-4

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4000 Derry Street • Harrisburg, PA 17111 • www.sclhbg.org

Paths to Hope and Healing

You are invited to share your thoughts and insights and return your responses to the special box located at the Narthex Information Center (at the top of the ramp outside the oratory) or to the parish office by November 11, 2018.

1. Where are you at with this?

2. What are you feeling?

3. What are you hearing?

4. What are the paths forward?

Name (optional): _____

I would like someone to contact me to talk more about this. Phone Number: _____