



## Very Reverend Daniel B. Carson

### Vicar General and Moderator of the Curia

Dear Brother in Christ,

I write today to provide you with updates and will continue to share with you information as needed.

#### **Additional Synod Information and Resources:**

The Archdiocesan Synod website has been updated to include additional information and resources. Resources in Spanish are now also available on the website.

General information about the Synod can be found at the links below.

English: <https://adw.org/about-us/resources/synod/>

Español: <https://adw.org/es/sinodo/>

I also provide the following direct links to parish resources:

**Toolkit** - The Toolkit provides pastors information about the Synod including catechetical material, bulletin announcements and a timeline. Español: <https://adw.org/wp-content/uploads/sites/2/2021/10/21Synod-Listening-Session-Toolkit-SPA.pdf>

**Participant's Guide**, **Facilitator's Guide** and **Note taker Sheets** – The two Guides provide listening session options for parishes and a step by step facilitation script. The Note Taker Sheets are to assist parishes during the Listening Session and preparing their report to the Archdiocese. Parishes are free to adapt the sample listening sessions to suit their needs. Español: <https://adw.org/es/sinodo/recursos/>

Once a parish has completed their listening session, parishes can submit their responses using the online portal found here: <https://adw.org/about-us/resources/synod-surveys/>

If parishes would like copies of the Participant's Guide printed and shipped to your location, please email [synod@adw.org](mailto:synod@adw.org) by Wednesday, November 3, 2021 with the following information:

- 1) The name of your parish.
- 2) The address you would like the Guide mailed to.
- 3) The numbers of copies needed.
- 4) Do you need English or Spanish copies or both?

Should you or your staff have any questions about the Synod, parish listening sessions or the documents, please reach out to Dr. Jeannine Marino at [MarinoJ@adw.org](mailto:MarinoJ@adw.org).

### **The Way Retreat**

As we continue the important work of ministering to survivors of all forms of abuse across our archdiocese, we recognize that their healing is the responsibility of the entire Church. I write today to share with you that The Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Washington has scheduled two *The Way* retreats for survivors of abuse, at no cost to attendees. The men's retreat is November 19-21, 2021 and the women's retreat is February 18-20, 2022.

In support of your ministry, we are pleased to share this information with you, in order to promote this opportunity in your parish and personally invite any survivors who could benefit. This retreat is an occasion for survivors to reflect on God's plan for their lives and for healing through prayer and the sacraments. There will be opportunities for professional one-on-one counseling, and spiritual direction. For additional information and details about these retreats, please visit <https://adw.org/the-way-retreat/>.

Thank you for your support of this vital opportunity for survivors of abuse.

If you have any questions, please contact Deborah McDonald at [mcdonald@adw.org](mailto:mcdonald@adw.org) or 301-853-4466.

Survivors interested in learning more and/or to register may also email or call Deborah McDonald. To protect the privacy of survivors, the Archdiocese will not be publicizing the location of the retreat.

To aid in promotion of these retreats, I include suggested Mass and bulletin announcements below:

*Resources for The Way Retreat for Survivors of Abuse:*

*Suggested Bulletin Announcement*

As the Church continues to minister to all survivors of abuse, The Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Washington is sponsoring a retreat for survivors. The Archdiocese will offer the men's retreat November 19-21, 2021 and the women's retreat February 18-20, 2022. This retreat is an occasion for survivors to reflect on God's plan for their lives and for healing through prayer and the sacraments. For more information go to <https://adw.org/the-way-retreat/>. To register, email [mcdonald@adw.org](mailto:mcdonald@adw.org) or call Deborah McDonald at 301-853-4466.

### *Suggested Pulpit Announcement*

As the Church continues to minister to all survivors of abuse, The Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Washington is sponsoring a retreat for survivors. The Archdiocese will offer the men's retreat November 19-21, 2021 and the women's retreat February 18-20, 2022. This retreat is an occasion for survivors to reflect on God's plan for their lives and for healing through prayer and the sacraments. For more information and registration information, please see the bulletin or call Deborah McDonald at 301-853-4466.

### *Frequently Asked Questions:*

#### **Will I have to talk about the details of my abuse in a group setting?**

**Answer:** No. There will be times during the retreat where you have the opportunity to talk to others, but you are not required to share about your abuse. The retreat focuses on opportunities for prayer through scripture and the Passion of Christ, God's original plan for you, Reconciliation, and Mass.

#### **I am not a victim of clergy sexual abuse can I still come?**

**Answer:** Yes! This day is for anyone who has been abused in any way by anyone. You are not taking a spot from someone else who needs it ... YOU need it ...we are here for you.

#### **Is there a fee for the retreat?**

**No.** There is no fee or cost associated with this opportunity.

#### **Remind the Faithful of Information on the Website**

The archdiocesan website is updated regularly. Please see [adw.org/coronavirus](https://adw.org/coronavirus) for information related to the coronavirus, [adw.org/live-streamed-masses-and-prayers/](https://adw.org/live-streamed-masses-and-prayers/) for a listing of live stream Masses and prayers, and [cathstan.org](https://cathstan.org) and [elpreg.org](https://elpreg.org) for the *Catholic Standard* and the Spanish-language *El Pregonero* newspapers.

As always, should you have questions or need assistance from my office and the Pastoral Center, please let us know.

With gratitude for your priestly ministry, I am  
Sincerely in Christ,  
Very Reverend Daniel B. Carson  
Vicar General and Moderator of the Curia