

## Introduction to the New Beginning Experience Manuals



### I. The Process:



- 2005: Questionnaire sent to teams for initial input
- 2006: Convention: Half day workshop
  - What needs changing?
  - What's not clear?
  - What's dear to your heart?
- Process interrupted for revision of Coping with Life Alone

### The Process (cont'd)

- 2010 Convention: Draft talk guidelines introduced for team input
- 2011 Regional Conferences: Draft schedule, Reconciliation introduced for team input
- Spring 2012: Field tested by Cincinnati, Ohio team
- Approved by Sr. Josephine
- July 2012: Final International Board approval

### II. The Message:



- Hope renewed
- Identity as a Catholic ministry serving all faiths
- Program centered on the Resurrection mystery - the dying and rising of Jesus



### ➤ Two new manuals:



### Two New Manuals:

#### OLD

- One little brown manual + team hand written scripts

#### NEW

- Two big brown manuals
  - One for each member of presenting team
  - One for the coordinator

### **III. The NEW Manual for Presenting Team**

#### **General Guidelines:**

- Process relates to human nature – stays the same
- Presentation
- Written reflection
- Small group sharing

#### **More General Guidelines:**

- Updated "package" and presentation
  - First update in nearly 30 years
  - Outer "package" redesigned for today's participant
  - "Dated" approaches eliminated
  - Clearer instruction for teams
  - New resources - small group guidelines, music, scripts, sample forms
  - Opportunity for "Giant Leap" into 21st century!

#### **Hiding the Time is Gone**

- No need to cover or remove clocks (Never was in the Old Manual - added by teams)
- Post a general schedule for participants
- No need to take watches from participants - can suggest putting them in a pocket
- Treats participants as adults - responsible for their own medications
- Don't take cell phones - ask that they be turned off

#### **Other Guidelines**

- Limit weekend 'extras' - no more than three
- Arrangement of chairs relates to size of group; no sitting on floor
- ONE song AFTER the two talks
- Team members write WITH participants
- Facilitator Guidelines included for each small group session
- Presenters have an alternate journaling focus

#### **10 New Changes:**



**# 1: Schedule**OLD

- TWO schedules: original and alternate

NEW

- ONE schedule with options on Saturday

**# 2: How to Write a Talk**OLD

- Talk writing guidelines in a separate training manual

NEW

- Talk writing guidelines included in Manual for Presenting Team

*Note: Does not replace the "Facilitation Skills Manual for Beginning Experience Teams"*

**# 3: Talk Guidelines**OLD

- Talk included introduction and content
- Difficult to follow outline

NEW

- Introduction read by Coordinator includes "teaching content"
- Clearer outlines for personal talk

**# 4: Length of Talks**OLD

- 8 – 10 minutes

NEW

- 8 minute maximum

**# 5: Orientation & Focus**OLD

- Two scripted parts followed by personal sharing

NEW

- Two revised scripts
- Personal sharing has new outline
- Personal sharing now called "Coming to the Weekend"

**# 6: Talk Title Changes**OLD

- Encounter with Self
- Symptoms of Spiritual Death
- Sermon on the Amount
- Closing the Weekend

NEW

- An Honest Look at Who I Am
- Grief and the Death of the Spirit
- Sharing the Vision
- Leaving the Weekend

## # 7: Hand Meditation

### OLD

- Two versions

### NEW

- Three variations



## # 8: Trusting Self

### OLD

- Two handouts:
  - Intimacy article
  - Sharing continuum

### NEW

- One handout - Intimacy article
- Revised questions

## # 9: Reconciliation

### OLD

- Team priest as emcee
- No script – some teams wrote their own
- Symbols:
  - Burn paper
  - Draw in sand
  - Anoint with oil

### NEW

- Team member is emcee
- Priest retains spiritual role
- New script
- Revised symbols
- Guidelines for using time to avoid late hour

## # 10: Mass/Closing Liturgy

### OLD

- No information regarding Communion until Mass begins



### NEW

- Preparing participants for Mass and Communion included in "Reaching Out" share group

## IV. The NEW Manual for Coordinators



## Materials for Weekend Preparation:

- New contemporary brochures (available separately)
- Screening guidelines, "scripted conversation" and screening forms
- Multi-purpose Registration Forms
- Talk chart and Facilitation chart for teams
- Sample letters to clergy, clergy preparation
- Sample letters to counselor on call

### Materials for Weekend Presentation:

- Task check lists for team weekend setup
- Schedule to post for participants
- Schedule to complete and copy for Presenters/Facilitators
- Schedule to complete and copy for Coordinators

### More Materials:

- Scripted pages in sleeves to take out, read, and return
- Reproducible questions and handouts
- Reconciliation script
- Updated song suggestions for each talk
- Guidelines for song selection
- Guidelines for small group formation
- Guidelines for weekend follow-up

### V. How It Works:



- Numbered Manuals and Contracts
- \$25 Manual for Presenting Team - need one for each member
- \$10 off per manual with return of a small brown manual til Nov. 1, 2012
- \$75 Manual for Coordinators - need one or two per team
- Size: 8.5x11—
  - Bound Manual for Presenting Team
  - Loose leaf Manual for Coordinators

### V. How It Works:



Date for all teams to implement:

July 25, 2014

(Start of the International Convention)

