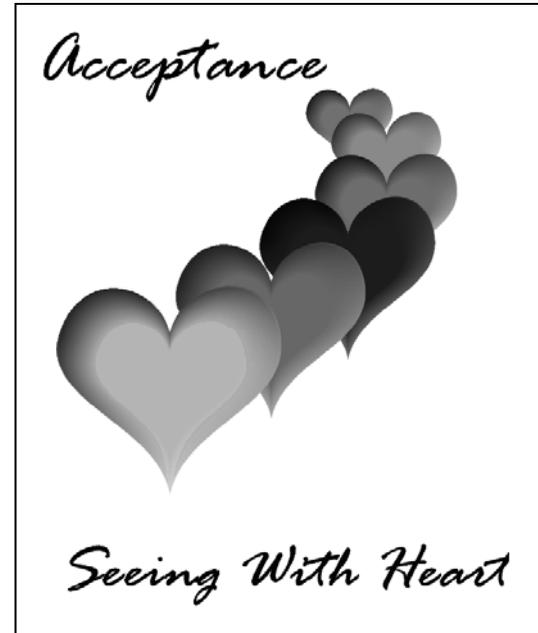


SEEING WITH HEART



**Eleventh Canadian Day of
Reflection For
Catholic Parents Of
Lesbian Daughters
And Gay Sons**

Saturday 8 June, 2013

**MANRESA
Jesuit Spiritual Renewal Centre
Pickering, Ontario**

THE SEEING WITH HEART reflection day will involve:

- Storytelling
- Presentations
- Discussions
- Communal prayer
- Quiet time
- Worship
- Socializing.

We hope to provide a relaxed and supportive atmosphere for Catholic parents to:

- Reflect on and talk about their concerns and needs
- Ask questions about Catholic thought and practice
- Learn about ministries and resources
- Meet and interact with other parents who are at various points on their personal and family journeys.

The Facilitators

Father Philip Shano, S.J. has been a Canadian Jesuit for thirty five years. He worked at the Jesuit retreat house in Guelph for more than ten years, was novice director at the Jesuit Novitiate in Saint Paul, Minnesota for six years, and has served in many capacities of Jesuit community leadership. He has extensive experience teaching, giving retreats, and writing in the area of Ignatian spirituality. He has been the Superior of the Jesuit community in Pickering for the past three years. As such, he is the Director of the Jesuit Infirmary and maintains involvement in retreat work at Manresa.

John Montague earned his Master of Divinity from Regis College, University of Toronto. He is an active member of Our Lady Of Lourdes Parish in Toronto. He has a Master of Social Work, and provides counseling to individuals, couples, and families. For the past eleven years he has organized a Day of Reflection for Catholic Parents of lesbian daughters and gay sons.

Schedule

A.M.

9:00 Check In

Prayer

Introductions

Presentation

Reflection Time

Group discussion

P.M.

Lunch

Free Time

Presentation

Reflection Time

Eucharist

Evaluations

5:00 Farewell

How To Reach Manresa

By Car From the West

If you are travelling east on Hwy 401, EXIT onto the Collector Lanes at Markham or Morningside. EXIT the 401 at Whites Road and travel north to Finch. At Finch, turn right and go east. After 3 stop lights, turn left onto Liverpool Road. Travel north on Liverpool Road to Manresa.

By Car From the East

Travel west on Hwy 401 to Liverpool Road. Go north on Liverpool Road to Manresa.

By Train

Take the Go Train to Pickering Station. Manresa is 3.5 km by taxi or by local bus.

“Catholic Parents testify that a welcoming respectful and sensitive attitude by their parish community is especially important when they are dealing with a child’s disclosure of same sex attraction. Offer your patient assistance to parents who are grappling with the challenges of supporting a son or daughter who is coming to terms with same sex attraction and may experience isolation or reproving silence. Ostracism or the fear of being rejected or even hated, frequently contributes to the despair that all too often is felt by these young persons. We urge you to be attentive to their parents, reducing their isolation and worry by your counsel.”

--- Pastoral Ministry to Young People With Same Sex Attraction. Episcopal Commission for Doctrine of the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops. 2011.

“Consider participating in a retreat designed for Catholic parents of homosexual children. Other people have traveled the same road as you but may have journeyed even further. They can share effective ways of handling delicate family situations such as how to tell family members and friends about your child, how to explain homosexuality to younger children, and how to relate to your son or daughter’s friends in a Christian way.”

— Always Our Children: A Pastoral Message to Parents of Homosexual Children and Suggestions for Pastoral Ministers, a Statement of the American Bishop’s Committee on Marriage and Family, United States Conference of Catholic Bishops – 1998. Publication Number 5-131.

“Humankind looks at appearances but God looks at the heart.”

I Samuel, 16:7

“Our message speaks of accepting yourself, your beliefs and values, your questions, and all you may be struggling with at this moment; accepting and loving your child as a gift of God; and accepting the full truth of God’s revelation about the dignity of the human person and the meaning of human sexuality. Within the Catholic moral vision there is no contradiction among these levels of acceptance, for truth and love are not opposed. They are inseparably joined and rooted in one person, Jesus Christ, who

reveals God to be ultimate truth and saving love.”

— Always Our Children: A Pastoral Message to Parents of Homosexual Children and Suggestions for Pastoral Ministers.

Registration

The registration fee for SEEING WITH HEART is **\$40.00** per person.

Your registration fee includes lunch.

Please fill in the registration form on the right and detach it.

For any questions or information contact:

John Montague at **416-523-6449**.

In order to plan for numbers it would be appreciated if people planning to attend, please mail the registration form as soon as possible. Space is limited.

SEEING WITH HEART Registration Form

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

Postal Code _____

Home Tel. _____

Email address: _____

**Enclosed is: \$ _____ \$40.00
registration fee per person payable to:**

Catholic Parents Network

Space is limited. Please detach and mail cheque and registration form to:

Catholic Parents Network

275 Mutual Street

Toronto Ontario Canada

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