



**October 6-8, 2023**

Application Deadline September 30, 2023

Overlook Lodge  
Camp Comeca  
75670 Road 417  
Cozad, NE 69130

**\$250.00**

Includes private room, meals,  
retreat materials and program.

*Financial assistance may be available if cost is a hardship.*

To request an application  
please contact:

Elizabeth A. Heidt Kozisek, Ph.D.  
308-382-6565 or  
cpo@gidiocese.org

*Must provide your own transportation  
to and from the retreat location.*

*Additional Information Available at: [https://  
www.gidiocese.org/victim-assistance](https://www.gidiocese.org/victim-assistance)*



The Way Healing  
Retreats for Survivors  
of Abuse were  
developed by Sue

Stubbs, Victim Assistance Coordinator of  
the Archdiocese of Atlanta.

The Victim Assistance Program of the  
Archdiocese of Atlanta, part of the Office  
of Child and Youth Protection, provides  
outreach and healing programs for those  
abused by church personnel. Some  
programs, such as this retreat, expand  
beyond those abused by church personnel  
to include all abuse victims.

The Victim Assistance Program organizes  
a pastoral response to the victim, their  
immediate family and their parish family  
by offering resources for counseling,  
spiritual direction, prayer services,  
retreats and educational information.

For more information contact:

Office of Child and Youth Protection  
Archdiocese of Atlanta  
2401 Lake Park Drive SE  
Smyrna, GA 30080  
Phone 404-920-7550  
ocyp@archatl.com



**A Healing Retreat for  
Female Survivors of Abuse**

**Developed by Sue Stubbs**

Victim Assistance Coordinator  
Archdiocese of Atlanta

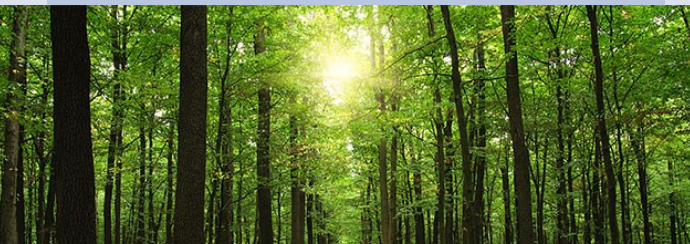
**A service of the  
Victim Assistance Ministries of the  
Roman Catholic Church in Nebraska**

*Provided by the Diocese of Grand Island  
in collaboration with the Archdiocese of Omaha  
and the Diocese of Lincoln*

*This retreat is Christian-based.  
Women of all faiths and traditions are  
invited and welcomed.*



The Way is a healing retreat for female survivors of abuse; a 3-day guided meditation and prayer experience for women whose abuse by another has deeply affected their heart, mind, body and soul.



- *Have you experienced or are you experiencing dread, confusion, deep hurt, betrayal or anger when you think of the abuse you have suffered? Or maybe you are feeling nothing at all.*
- *You have every right to these feelings...they are natural reactions to the trauma you have survived.*
- *You may be asking yourself, "What do I with all of this? How will confronting my abuse experience affect my life? How will I ever recover my trust in people, God, my Church again?"*

***Does it really matter? Do I matter?"***

**Your Retreat Team** consists of professional counselors, a priest, and volunteers who are well formed and grounded in the Truth of the Catholic faith. All Truth is God's Truth, so no matter if you are not Catholic, the steps you take during this retreat will help you to move forward in Truth on your journey to peace.



**The Way** is the path to take to find answers to these and many other questions for which your heart, mind, body, and soul have been searching. This is where your healing journey begins. These three days of guided meditations and prayer crafted around the Stations of the Cross will show you the steps Christ took to overcome dread, confusion, deep hurt, betrayal, and anger not only for His experience of abuse—which culminated in His death on the cross and new life in the Resurrection—but for your abuse as well. You can choose to walk **The Way** with Him, learn His ways, transform your pain and suffering into a new life, the life God has always wanted for you but that the sins of another has disfigured in countless ways.

**You do matter...**to God, to your Church, to your loved ones, to the world. Let Christ show you **The Way** to peace in heart, mind, body, and soul. Take your first voluntary steps on **The Way** to new life.

## Retreat Schedule

### Friday

Mass (*encouraged but not required*)  
Settling-in  
Welcome / Introduction  
Dinner  
Conference / Stations 1-3

### Saturday\*\*

Breakfast  
Conference / Stations 4-7  
Lunch  
Rosary (*encouraged but not required*)  
Free Time  
Conference / Stations 8-11  
Mass (*encouraged but not required*)

With voluntary opportunity for Sacrament of Healing  
Dinner—*Silent portion of retreat begins\**  
Station 12  
Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament  
(*encouraged but not required*)  
Foot of The Cross Ceremony

### Sunday

Sunday Mass (*encouraged but not required*)  
Breakfast  
Stations 13-14  
Way of the Cross  
Station 15  
*Silent portion of retreat ends*  
Lunch  
Conference  
Homebound!

**\*Silence is God's language.** Refraining from talking amongst ourselves during this portion of the retreat will increase our intimacy with God. In the words of Saint Theresa of Calcutta, "We need to find God and He cannot be found in noise and restlessness. God is the friend of silence. See how nature—trees, flowers, grass—grows in silence; see the stars, the moon, the sun, how they move in silence...we need silence to be able to touch souls."

\*\*Voluntary opportunity for the Sacrament of Reconciliation available throughout the day.