



Hope and Healing

in the Diocese of Albany



Beverwyck Vicariate

Albany County

Jesus invites us: "Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest" (Matthew 11:28). Each of us carries burdens at different points in life. Every burden is unique and the resolution to every burden is unique.

The Hope and Healing Ministry in the Diocese of Albany is part of the Office of Safe Environment whose mission is to provide Jesus' healing invitation to everyone, including survivors of clergy sexual abuse and those experiencing any other type of trauma.

The front of this page outlines the process for reporting abuse and information for New York State resources. The back lists local resources to assist people seeking rest from their burdens. Please share this page with anyone who may benefit from its information. Further information and resources can be found: www.rcda.org/hopeandhealing

How to Report Abuse

Step 1: Emergency

- If anyone is in immediate danger, call 911

Step 2: Mandated Reporters

- If you are a mandated reporter, call the New York State Mandated Reporter hotline:
1-800-635-1522

Step 3: Law Enforcement

- Report the allegation to local police
- Albany County District Attorney:
 - o David Soares
 - o (518) 487-5460

Step 4: Diocesan Officials

- Report the allegation to Diocesan officials:

Diocesan Assistance Coordinator
(518) 453-6646
assistance.coordinator@rcda.org

Prayer for Healing Victims of Abuse

God of endless love,
ever caring, ever strong,
always present, always just:
You gave your only Son
to save us by the blood of his cross.

Gentle Jesus, shepherd of peace,
join to your own suffering
the pain of all who have been hurt
in body, mind, and spirit
by those who betrayed the trust placed in them.

Hear the cries of our brothers and sisters
who have been gravely harmed,
and the cries of those who love them.
Soothe their restless hearts with hope,
steady their shaken spirits with faith.
Grant them justice for their cause,
enlightened by your truth.

Holy Spirit, comforter of hearts,
heal your people's wounds
and transform brokenness into wholeness.
Grant us the courage and wisdom,
humility and grace, to act with justice.
Breathe wisdom into our prayers and labors.
Grant that all harmed by abuse may find peace in justice.

We ask this through Christ, our Lord. Amen.

<https://www.usccb.org/prayers/prayer-healing-victims-abuse>

New York State Resources

Report Child Abuse and Neglect: 1-800-635-1522
Crisis Text Line: anonymous 24/7 service, text GOT5 to 741741
Domestic Violence: 1-800-942-6906

Suicide & Crisis Lifeline

Dial 988
(old number, still functions: 1-800-273-8255)

Mental Health Resources

The Consultation Center of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Albany is a mental health center which provides therapeutic services within a Christian environment, respecting the unity of body, mind and spirit. The Center offers individual and couples counseling, a variety of personal growth groups, spiritual direction, and lectures and workshops in the area of mental health and personal growth.

- www.consultationcenteralbany.org
- 790 Lancaster St., Albany, NY 12203
- (518) 489-4431, consultation.center@rcda.org

The **Department of Mental Health** offers a wide range of services to Albany County citizens, including treatment for mental illness and substance abuse.

It is our mission to ensure that persons with mental illness, substance and alcohol problems or developmental disabilities are provided a full range of services that promote stabilization, rehabilitation and recovery for the purpose of enhancing or improving their lives.

- www.albanycounty.com/departments/mental-health
- 175 Green Street Albany, NY 12202
- (518) 447-4555

Northern Rivers Behavioral Health offers a network of NYS Office of Mental Health-licensed community-based social work and psychiatric services throughout the Capital Region and beyond to support the emotional, social, and developmental needs of children, adults, and families. Our skilled and dedicated team of social workers, mental health counselors, and medical professionals provide programs tailored to different mental health needs, serving thousands of people every year through individual, group, and family psychotherapy; psychiatric assessments; medication management; and complex care management.

- www.northernrivers.org/our-services/behavioral-health
- (518) 426.2600

Spiritual Resources

Available at www.rcda.org/hopeandhealing/:

- **Stations of the Cross** for Healing from Clergy Sexual Abuse (from the Diocese of Sacramento)
- **The Holy Rosary** for the Healing of the Victims of Sexual Abuse and the Purification of the Church (from the Cathedral of St. Matthew the Apostle, Washington, DC)
- **Prayers of the Faithful** (from the USCCB)

Catholic Charities

Catholic Charities, a ministry of the Diocese of Albany, is committed to active witness on behalf of the Scriptural values of mercy and justice. Catholic Charities, recognizing human need at all stages of life, responds to all persons regardless of race, creed, or lifestyle, with special emphasis on the economically poor and the vulnerable. Call: (518) 453-6650.

Albany County

www.ccrda.org/get-help/albany-county/

PO Box 28, Rensselaer, NY 12144

(518) 512-3577

Services Available: Food & Nutrition, Chronic Disease Management & HIV Help, General Help & Emergency Assistance, Expecting Parents & Infants, Families & Children, Children & Adults with Intellectual Disabilities, Substance Abuse Prevention, Shelter & Low Income Housing, Services for Seniors, Tenant Advocacy & Homelessness Prevention, Immigration Legal Services