



I have come
that they may have life
And have it to the full.

John 10:10

Other useful contact numbers

Towards Healing, the free and confidential counselling referral service

Phone: 1800 303 416 (RoI) and
0800 096 3315 (NI and UK)

Email: coordinator@towardshealing.ie

Website: www.towardshealing.ie

The National Board for Safeguarding
Children in the Catholic Church in Ireland

Phone: 00 353 (0) 1 505 3124

Email: ann.doyle@safeguarding.ie

Website: www.safeguarding.ie

How do I contact Towards Peace?

Enquiries should be made to
Sister Mary Whyte
Co-ordinator of Towards Peace

Phone: 00353 (0)1 505 3028

Mobile: 00353 (0)86 770 1533

Mon–Thurs 10.00 a.m.–1.00 p.m.
and 2.00 p.m.– 4.00 p.m.

*An answerphone service is available
outside these hours.*

Email: towardspeace@iecon.ie

Website: www.towardspeace.ie

Postal Address:

Columba Centre,
St. Patrick's College,
Maynooth,
Co. Kildare,
Ireland



Towards Peace

SPIRITUAL SUPPORT SERVICE

Phone: 00353 (0)1 505 3028

Mobile: 00353 (0)86 770 1533

Email: towardspeace@iecon.ie

What is the aim of Towards Peace?

Towards Peace offers spiritual support to survivors of abuse by Church personnel. The service is for those whose faith has been damaged by abuse and who wish to continue their search for meaning and for God. There is no pre-determined road map. Each person travels her/his own spiritual journey at a different pace.

What is the origin of Towards Peace?

Feedback from survivors has highlighted the profoundly negative impact that abuse has had on their faith and on their relationship with God. Towards Peace is a whole Church response to this concern. It is one of three services that form the pastoral response to abuse by the Church in Ireland. The other two services are:

- Towards Healing, the free and confidential counselling referral service

and

- The National Board for Safeguarding Children in the Catholic Church in Ireland.

Who can avail of Towards Peace?

Those who have experienced abuse by Church personnel, including former residents of Church run institutions and their families are welcome to avail of this service.

If I want to avail of Towards Peace, what do I do?

By contacting Towards Peace (see contact details overleaf) the co-ordinator will help you to talk through your hopes and desire for inner peace. Once the service has been explained to you, you will be in a better position to decide if it suits your needs.

What might a person be offered by Towards Peace, and is there a cost involved?

Following initial telephone contact, Towards Peace offers an opportunity to talk to a trained spiritual companion. This will involve a series of conversations in which you can explore your relationship with God, and get in touch with God's presence in your life.

Up to nine sessions can be made available and there is no cost. Other spiritual supports, for example retreats or group events provided by other organisations, may be suggested.

Who are the spiritual companions provided by Towards Peace?

They are women and men, lay, religious and priests, who live in various parts of the country and who are trained to offer spiritual support and guidance to people using the Towards Peace service.

How is Towards Peace funded?

Towards Peace is funded by the Irish Catholic Bishops' Conference, the Conference of Religious of Ireland, and by the Irish Missionary Union.