



Support Resources for Victim-Survivors, Students, and Staff

- I. **Victim-Survivor Support.** In the aftermath of an incident involving suspected abuse, a Safe Environment policy violation, or other inappropriate conduct, the victim-survivor may need support in the process of healing. In addition to referral to the Diocese, McDonnell Area Catholic Schools will work to make resources available to victim-survivors, including local spiritual support through the clergy, if appropriate, and connecting victim-survivors to mental health supports such as support groups and individual counseling options.
- A. [Diocesan Victim Assistance Coordinator information](#) may be contacted in the event of a Safe Environment incident in the Diocese of La Crosse.
 - B. All MACS community members are encouraged to educate themselves in trauma-informed and sensitive practices and to follow practices which help support victim-survivors in healing from their trauma. Resources include:
 - 1. [Chippewa GRACE](#) is a local group of clergy and laity who seek healing and renewal from the scourge of sexual abuse on the part of clergy and others in the church.
 - 2. The [Archdiocese of Minneapolis-St. Paul](#) provides events, resources, and information about support groups to promote healing from the trauma of abuse.

II. Students and Staff Support

- A. Students experiencing the effects of trauma are encouraged to seek support from our school counselors at grades K-12. School counselors are trained to identify unresolved trauma and make appropriate referrals.
- B. The MACS mental health recovery task force will coordinate support for students and staff who may have experienced trauma, whether direct or indirect, including trauma caused by abuse committed by clergy or other church representatives.
- C. MACS provides additional employee and student mental health services through a contract with an outside provider. More information is available on the MACS website.

A Prayer for Healing and Reconciliation

Almighty and most loving God, through your Son,
your compassion brought healing to many.

We ask for your healing once more
for all who have been profoundly wounded by abuse,
especially those who have been hurt by your ministers.

In your goodness,
we ask for the grace
to be a source of healing
to all who have been abused
and to be ever vigilant
in protecting all your people.

Grant, we pray,
our prayers for healing and forgiveness,
for we ask them through your Son,
Christ our Lord. Amen