

ROSE SWEET
Catholic Author Speaker Coach



AFTER DIVORCE

ONLINE CONFERENCE

Answers, hope, & community to help
the divorced dream again!

WORKBOOK

OCTOBER 2020



EVENT PRESENTER

Rose Sweet

Rose Sweet is a Catholic author, retreat and conference speaker, and a certified life, relationship, and divorce recovery coach. She's the creator of the "Surviving Divorce" video series used in hundreds of US parishes and other countries.

Drawing from Scripture, the Catechism, Theology of the Body, (and more), Rose's inspiring books and talks offer heart, humor, and hope to those seeking lasting happiness, authentic romance, and the strengthening or healing of relationships.

ROESWEET.COM

ABOUT THIS EVENT

What does it mean to be Catholic... and divorced?

Divorce is a hard road to travel. Among Catholics, it's an even trickier topic to discuss. Too often, conversation around divorce is as bitter and acrid as the experience itself.

The After Divorce Online Conference is here to change that.

We promise that clarity is possible – without forsaking charity.

We also promise that living by religious principles doesn't mean we can't live with hope and joy. Light and love are at the end of the tunnel.

Church teachings and the sacred truth of Scripture will lead the way in the talks and discussions After Divorce presents.

Hurting? Hear inspiring stories of happy and holy saints 'after divorce' to renew your hope. Hesitant? Get wisdom and guidance from pastors, counselors, and support group leaders.

You'll learn about products and programs geared to specific concerns of persons going through divorce.

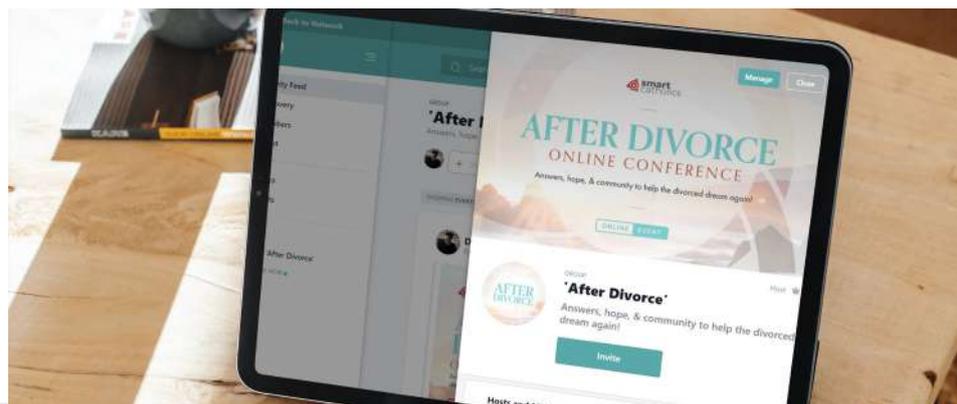
Discussion groups and coaching sessions will bring opportunities for everyone to be seen, heard, and understood.

All are welcome, whether newly divorced, years past a divorce, or concerned friends and family.

If divorce is affecting you or someone you love, register today for peace, purpose, and a practical path to the abundant life.

Looking forward to seeing you there,

Rose Sweet



HOW THIS EVENT WORKS

Your Access Passes bring you:

- ✓ **FREE:** Watch a selection of Collection Talks from this event, completely free, for a limited time.
- ✓ **\$10 ACCESS:** Everything in Free, plus: Access to the community to watch the live events, workshops, and fellowship. Keep the audio recordings from this event.
- ✓ **\$25 FULL ACCESS:** Everything in Free and Member, plus: Free, on demand access to all the replays. Support a Catholic Mission!

Thank you to our Event hosts



Rose Sweet

Catholic coaching encourages you to dream again, make a plan, and discover the more abundant life—in relationships, work, and all the daily details. Drawing on the riches of our Catholic faith, Rose has coached and inspired audiences and individuals for decades to find peace, purpose, increased happiness, and holiness.

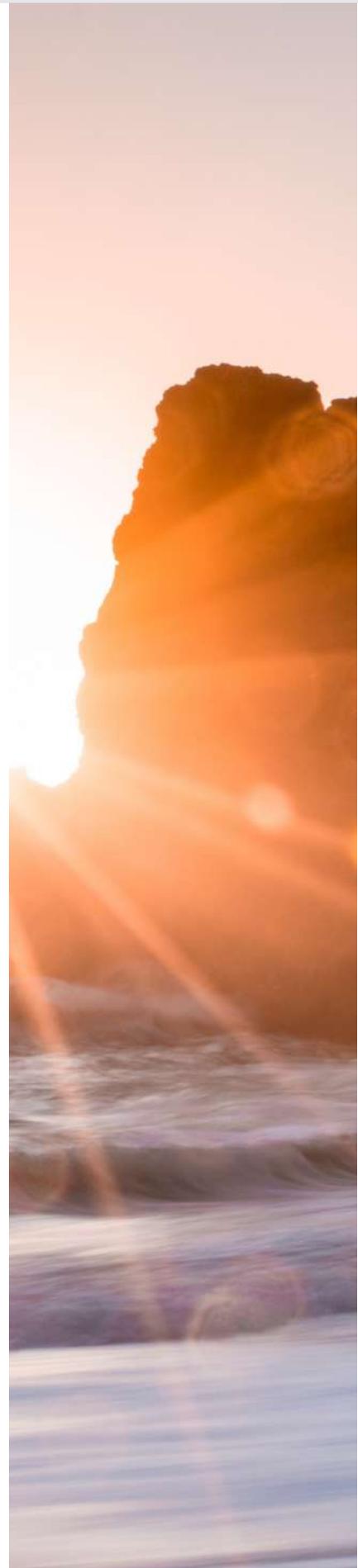
ROSESWEET.COM



Parousia

Your trusted source in Catholic content! More than informed. Transformed. In Christ. Parousia evangelizes by reaching out to already-connected Catholics, inviting them to participate in the mission, and forming them for mission.

PAROUSIAMEDIA.COM



How to get the most out of this conference

START WITH YOUR FAVORITE PRAYER

Any time we engage in formation and life in Christ, we must invite the Holy Spirit to act in us. Start each day asking help from your Guardian Angel, and invite Our Lady, the Holy Family, and your favorite patrons to pray for every speaker and attendee.

WATCH THE VIDEOS

After each video, set aside a few moments to focus on the message. The videos are short so that you don't get overwhelmed with ideas.

JOIN THE COMMUNITY

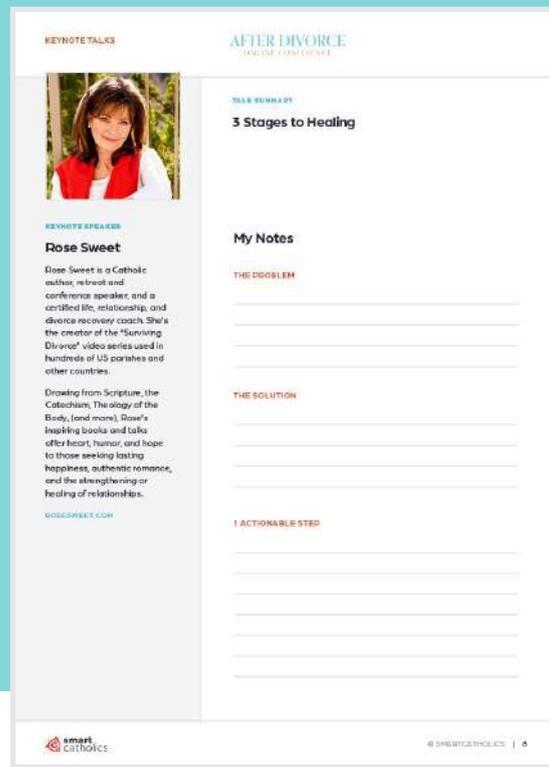
Come spend time with the speakers and other Catholics. Make friends, ask questions, and join in the conversations.

JOIN THE DEEP DIVES

Some of our speakers provide in-depth programs to help you go more deeply, or spend more time on the topics that matter to you.

Chat with the speakers to find out how they can help you enrich your faith life, and resolve your questions.

How to use this workbook



The speakers in this workbook are organized alphabetically, after the keynotes.

Each speaker page has an area for you to jot your notes and ideas. Use the prompts; they are structured to help you organize your thoughts.

Each talk invites you to **highlight a problem** that must be addressed. Becoming aware of a problem is the first step to change.

Then **identify the goal**, the 'promised land' that we need to get to. What does it look like for you?

Lastly, **identify one actionable step** you can take today. Perhaps it's a daily moment, or a series of small actions. Lots of small efforts over time feel achievable, and build into progress.



“HOPE DOES NOT
DISAPPOINT US.

(ROM. 5:5)



PRESENTER PROFILE

Meet Rose Sweet

All I ever really wanted in life was a loving husband, a beautiful home—and twelve adorable children.

Yes, twelve. I'm the oldest of a large family and dreamed of recreating the fun, lively, Catholic home in which I grew up. So off I went into the world, naïve and headstrong, and thinking I could figure it all out on my own. Happily ever after, here I come!

But then came reality. I never wanted or expected to be divorced. Who does?

In searching for materials, programs, and other post-divorce support, I found the answers to my gaping wounds and deepest desires in—really?—the timeless teachings of the Catholic Church. I'd never really matured in my faith and, frankly, was childishly afraid that "the Church" wanted me to live a dull, dry, monastic life. No way! But by God's merciful and tender grace, I stuck with it. Far from a set of rigid rules, what I found made sense in my mind and spoke to my heart. I had ached for true love and lasting happiness and was relieved and thankful that God had already made a way there for me.

And when I later discovered St. John Paul II's "Theology

of the Body," my whole world exploded! Finally, my deepest longings for love, passion, and intimacy were not scorned but affirmed. At last, marriage—what it meant for me to be a woman, and for men to be men—was given a mind-blowing supernatural meaning! Like the much-married woman at the well who dropped her jar and raced off to tell the townsfolk, I have made it my life's mission to share the good news.

Like everyone's story, mine is long and still not over. The AFTER DIVORCE conference is part of my continued work in divorce healing ministry in the Church for over thirty years. I'm most excited to offer not just pious platitudes (which can be comforting at times!) but practical, powerful truths:

- How to get through the pain and avoid self-pity
- How to let go of resentment and unforgiveness
- How to free yourself from the fear of being alone or unloved
- How to understand, live, and find true love
- How to best help your children

- How to find deep peace and a meaningful purpose
- How to find true happiness no matter your current state in life
- How to fully encounter Jesus in the Sacraments

Who doesn't want all that?

It's important to attend this conference so that you can hear the truth of what the Church really teaches—not the soft-pedaled lies or myths that have been around too long. The truth is the door through which you will find all that you have ever longed for.

You have been carrying this cross of a difficult marriage and a devastating divorce. Our Lord didn't make it happen, but he permitted it—with the promise of eventually bringing something beautiful, powerful, and life-giving from it. If your cross has been heavy, let us help you carry it.

You are not alone.



KEYNOTE SPEAKER

Rose Sweet

Rose Sweet is a Catholic author, retreat and conference speaker, and a certified life, relationship, and divorce recovery coach. She's the creator of the "Surviving Divorce" video series used in hundreds of US parishes and other countries.

Drawing from Scripture, the Catechism, Theology of the Body, (and more), Rose's inspiring books and talks offer heart, humor, and hope to those seeking lasting happiness, authentic romance, and the strengthening or healing of relationships.

ROSESWEET.COM

TALK SUMMARY

Welcome

Rose offers a warm welcome to the After Divorce community, offering hope, encouragement, and some direction to the inspiring and powerful resources being offered.

My Notes

THE PROBLEM

THE SOLUTION

1 ACTIONABLE STEP



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ROSESWEET.COM

TALK SUMMARY

Living as Brother & Sister

How can the Church require people who are not married and who deeply love each other to only live as brother and sister? This is a hard saying, but Rose explains in way that is both logical and heartfelt.

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ROSESWEET.COM

TALK SUMMARY

3 Stages to Healing

When emotional panic sets in after a divorce, people often wonder what they should do first. Rose prescribes the logical order of healing that must be followed for true and lasting healing from the trauma of divorce.

My Notes

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ROSESWEET.COM

TALK SUMMARY

Sabotaging the Marriage Bond

We can have deep and intimate bonds of family, friendship, and more, but the marriage bond uniquely stands apart from them all. Rose shares what can stress or wound a marriage bond, and also what can prevent it from ever coming into being.

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ROSESWEET.COM

TALK SUMMARY

Handling Loneliness

What can you do with the excruciating pain of loneliness after a divorce? Rose takes you on a short journey to the Garden of Eden, a beachside resort ... and a final place where your questions will be answered.

My Notes

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SPEAKER

Anne DeSantis

Anne DeSantis is the Director for a non-profit called the St. Raymond Nonnatus Foundation for Freedom, Family, and Faith. The foundation offers spiritual accompaniment for families in crisis especially those affected by divorce and separation.

Anne is a Wife, Mom, Author. She will graduate in 2021 with her Masters in Pastoral Theology. Anne's talks will offer practical healing tips for Adult Children of Divorce. She is an ACOD herself, and she wishes to help others to find healing. In addition, she is a podcast and TV host.

ANNEDESANTIS.COM

TALK SUMMARY

Adult Children of Divorce: 10 Ways to Heal

10 practical tips for the adult child of divorce to experience healing. No matter your age, this talk will offer great tips to understand how God is working in your life in light of family break up.

My Notes

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SPEAKER

Debbie Georgianni

Debbie Georgianni, M.A. is a writer, inspirational speaker and certified health/wellness coach. She dedicated 25 years to Catechetical Ministry in the Diocese of Phoenix working with all age groups. Debbie spent 5 years in Community Relations and as an Announcer for Immaculate Heart Radio. Debbie co-hosts with Jerry Usher, Take 2, a live weekday radio show on the EWTN Global Catholic Radio Network.

TALK SUMMARY

Divorce, Detachment, and Discovery

Divorce is devastating, but it is not the final chapter in your life. Debbie shares some of her own story to encourage you to “free fall into the arms of God.”

My Notes

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SPEAKER

David L. Gray

David L. Gray is an American Catholic Theologian and Historian, and the President and Publisher of Saint Dominic's Media. He holds a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration from Central State University (Ohio) and a Masters of Arts in Catholic Theology from Ohio Dominican University. His most recent books are, 'The Divine Symphony: An Exordium to the Theology of the Catholic Mass' and 'The Catholic Catechism on Freemasonry'.

DAVIDLGRAY.INFO

TALK SUMMARY

Living the Liturgy: Lord Save Me

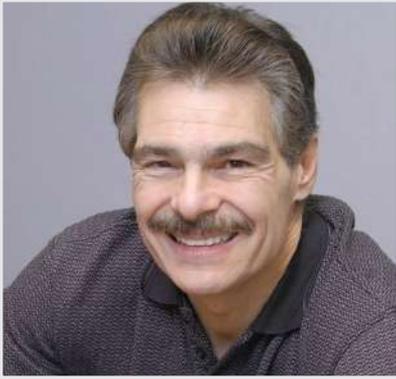
Divorce almost demands we move beyond the same old song and dead-beat tempo we may have lived for so long. What if it is the Catholic Mass that provides a new rhythm of life after divorce, or any trauma? What if it is that same movement that drew Simon Peter to Jesus on the Sea of Galilee? Come and see!

My Notes

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SPEAKER

Dr Ray Guarendi

A Catholic father of ten, clinical psychologist, author, professional speaker, and national radio & television host. His radio show, "The Dr. Is In" can be heard on over 440 stations and SiriusXM® channel 130, and he is one of the experts in the "Surviving Divorce" video program in hundreds of parishes.

DRRAY.COM

TALK SUMMARY

Parenting Do's and Don'ts: Rose Responds

The ripple effects of divorce will continue throughout the family and the culture unless we can stop the bleeding. I'm a Catholic father of ten and licensed clinical psychologist who has helped thousands of families affected by divorce. The Church offers us real hope and practical answers to finding what we all need: healing, peace, and love that lasts.

My Notes

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SPEAKER

Lynn Kapusinski

Lynn Cassella-Kapusinski, LCPC, NCC is a licensed clinical professional counselor, pastoral counselor, happily married “child of divorce,” and a leading figure in Catholic pastoral care of children from divorced or separated families. Her work has been recognized by Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI, the Pontifical John Paul II Institute for Studies on Marriage and the Family, the Knights of Columbus, and various dioceses. She has appeared on EWTN and Relevant Radio and speaks at conferences around the country.

FAITHJOURNEYS.ORG

TALK SUMMARY

What Your Children Need Most from You Now

Divorced or separated parents have the most impact on their children’s healing and growth, but seldom realize what is most important in helping, not hindering, their children in this regard. I am a Catholic “child of divorce” who was able to “beat the odds” and “get marriage right,” in large part because of the graces and wisdom of the Catholic Church.

My Notes

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SPEAKER

Fr Dwight Longenecker

Fr Dwight Longenecker is an award winning blogger, speaker and author of "Immortal Combat" and twenty other books and booklets on Catholic faith and culture.

DWIGHTLONGENECKER.COM

TALK SUMMARY

Finding Forgiveness

When we have been hurt very badly it is impossible to forgive in our own power. This talk unlocks the power of God's forgiveness with practical tools of prayer.

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DWIGHTLONGENECKER.COM

TALK SUMMARY

Praying the Rosary for Inner Healing

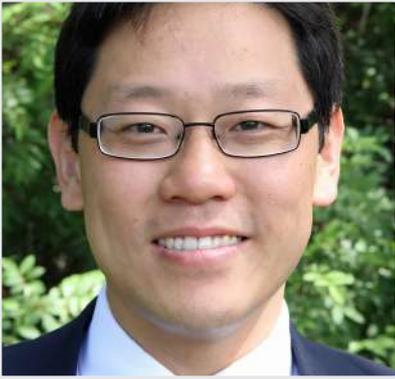
The Holy Rosary connects with different stages and challenges in life. Learn how to pray the rosary to unlock God’s healing power in your life.

My Notes

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SPEAKER

Ben Nguyen

Ben Nguyen is a canon and civil lawyer who serves as Chancellor for the Diocese of Corpus Christi, Texas, where he is also Canonical Counsel & Theological Advisor and Promoter of Justice in the Diocesan Tribunal.

Ben is a national lecturer and canonical legal consultant for dioceses, religious institutions, apostolates, schools, and non-profit organizations throughout the United States.

TALK SUMMARY

**Understanding Annulments:
Part 1 – The WHAT of Annulments**

An in-depth, three part series exploring the beauty of Church teachings in marriage, and offers common-sense rationale to Catholic Declarations of Nullity. This talk explains where annulments come from, what they are, what they are not, and the essential elements that must be in every act of getting married.

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TALK SUMMARY

**Understanding Annulments:
Part 2 – The WHY of Annulments**

An in-depth, three part series explores the beauty of Church teachings in marriage and offers common-sense rationale to Catholic Declarations of Nullity. This talk introduces the three areas considered by tribunals in what can invalidate an act of getting married: capability, consent, and canonical form.

My Notes

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Ben is a national lecturer and canonical legal consultant for dioceses, religious institutions, apostolates, schools, and non-profit organizations throughout the United States.

TALK SUMMARY

**Understanding Annulments:
Part 3 – The How of Annulments**

An in-depth, three part series exploring the beauty of Church teachings in marriage, and offers common-sense rationale to Catholic Declarations of Nullity. This talk clearly and pastorally walks you through what happens from the time one petitions for a Declaration of Nullity to the time a decision is finally rendered.

My Notes

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SPEAKER

Fr Matthew Phelan

Father is friar and priest in the Order of the Blessed Virgin Mary of Mercy (Mercedarians), with an STB in theology from St. Charles Borromeo Seminary, Philadelphia and an STL in the Theology of Consecrated life from the Lateran University's Institute for Consecrated Life (Claretianum).

He has served as a formator for the Mercedarians and the former Spiritual Moderator for the St. Raymond Nonnatus Foundation for Freedom, Family, and Faith. Currently he is pastor of Our Lady of Mercy (LeRoy, NY) and St. Brigid (Bergen, NY).

TALK SUMMARY

The Surprising Power of Confession

The thought of confession in the midst of the trauma of divorce can be intimidating. Be not afraid. God desires to strengthen you through this Sacrament.

My Notes

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SPEAKER

Ronda Reil

Ronda is a Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist who specializes in counseling those dealing with grief, divorce recovery, addiction recovery and blended family issues. She facilitates two support groups, including a group for survivors of divorce. Her practice is in Palm Desert, California, where her reputation for wisdom and compassion have helped her lead men and women toward joy and peace for almost twenty years.

TALK SUMMARY

The Bad News and Good News of Divorce

Divorce can be a time of great discovery. What is your role now? Where do you belong? Where do you want to go from here? These are questions one must ask after a divorce—or face being painfully stuck. I offer helpful considerations to help you find YOU!

My Notes

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SPEAKER

Mary Jo Rennert

Author, speaker, and retreat guide Mary Jo Rennert is a powerful witness to a Beautiful Way to TRUE happiness. Divorced after forty-four years of marriage, she helps others navigate beyond the dark night to discover and explore the outrageous love the Bridegroom has for each one of us.

Her latest book, *You Are Still Beloved: When Your Long-Term Marriage Ends in Divorce*, offers humor, hope, and practical advice for emotional and spiritual healing.

MARYJORENNERT.COM

TALK SUMMARY

You Are Still Beloved

Betrayal by a spouse is a fracture of the deepest level of our trust, making it hard to place our confidence in anyone—perhaps even God. Divorced after forty-four years of marriage, Mary Jo Rennert searched for and found her Beloved. She invites others to travel out of the darkness of divorce on the Beautiful Way to True Happiness.

My Notes

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SPEAKER

Fr. Steve Porter

Priest of the Diocese of San Bernardino for 30 years, Diocese of East Anglia, England for 10 years before that. Spent all that time in parish ministry, with families, with immigrants, with divorced, and others marginalized.

TALK SUMMARY

Finding Strength in Facing Your Fears

The world runs on fear, Catholics don't need to. I continue to offer separated and divorced people the wisdom of the Church when it comes to navigating through wounded emotions, questions about God's will, and the importance of the interior life.

My Notes

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SPEAKER

Marek Rudak

An Army Ranger who fought in two wars, Marek Rudak had many challenging experiences, but nothing prepared him for the devastation of his divorce. Today, he helps Christian men grow from divorce and start their next chapter. In 2020 I published a #1 Amazon New Release, "The Love Driven Man."

MAREKRUDAK.COM

TALK SUMMARY

5 Strategies for Finding Your Way Again

Serving in the military, I had many challenging experiences, but nothing prepared me for the devastation of my divorce. In this vulnerable talk, I will share how Jesus healed me and five strategies that will be key to finding your way again.

My Notes

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SPEAKER

Christopher West

Christopher West is a devoted husband and father of five. As President of the Theology of the Body Institute, he leads an international apostolate spreading St. John Paul II's life-transforming teaching through graduate level courses, on-site events and programs, clergy enrichment training, and an online global community dedicated to ongoing formation.

ASKCHRISTOPHERWEST.COM

TALK SUMMARY

Your Wounds Are Destined to Shine With Glory

The pain of divorce breaks our hearts; the truth is that our wounds are Christ's wounds and his wounds are our wounds. Just as Christ's wounds were glorified, so can and will our wounds be glorified as we unite them with Christ. This pain CAN lead to later joy. This talk will guide you along that path.

My Notes

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Support a Catholic mission

For every Full Access pass (\$25) you purchase, we donate \$1 to a Catholic mission or charity, picked out by our presenter! This event is supporting 'Select to Give'

Select to Give was founded in 2014, by Select International Tours, Inc. as a not-for-profit 501 c (3) Foundation with the intent of helping Christians of the Holy Land and the Middle East stay in their homelands with freedom to worship, be educated and work in a safe and healthy environment.



They are a fabulous group and support Christians in the Holy Land! – Rose Sweet, Presenter

[Get My Access Pass](#)

Frequently Asked Questions

Can I get audio files?

Yes. Everyone who purchases an access pass will get a folder of audio files to keep.

How can I watch the videos?

The videos will be sent to the email you registered with. You'll be able to watch them for free during the 7 days before the live event.

I can't attend the event. Will there be replays?

Yes, all the recordings will be stored in a beautiful, on-demand library that you can watch any time. Access the replays is \$10 a month. Everyone who purchases a full access pass gets a 100% free coupon to the collection. The replays will be stored on PAROUSIAONDEMAND.COM

Can I meet and chat with the speakers?

Yes, we will have live events, workshops, and Q&As during the live part of this event.

Is there a community?

Yes, this event is launching an ongoing group within the SmartCatholics community, here for you for years to come. Get formation, feedback, answers, and new friends!



ABOUT SMARTCATHOLICS

Catholicism is smart and beautiful.

But too few know about our smart, intellectual tradition, and the impact Christ is having on the world. When Catholics understand our Faith in the modern world, we experience greater personal joy, and confidence in sharing the good news.

FAITHFUL

Smart Catholics believe in the mystical reality of the Catholic Church and the magisterium.

HERITAGE

Smart Catholics honor our Christian legacy and heritage and how it informs us today.

MODERN

Smart Catholics revel in the latest research to stay relevant and be a source of renewal.

Join the community today!

It's exciting to be Catholic!

We have a heritage of great thinkers, thriving universities, phenomenal mystics, amazing saints, and cathedral building.

The Catholic contribution to the modern world defies belief.

Smart Catholics come together as a community to nourish our faith, and meet and make friends.

Life is worth living.
Confidence about the truth.
Be a magnetic Catholic.

