

Ministry Spotlight

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NAIM

Soon afterward, Jesus went to a town named Naim, accompanied by His disciples and a large crowd. Just as he arrived at the gate of the town, a funeral procession was coming out. The dead man was the only son of a woman who was a widow, and a large crowd from the town was with her. When the Lord saw her, his heart was filled with pity for her. Then he walked over and touched the coffin, and the men carrying it stopped. Jesus said, "Young man! Get up, I tell you!" The dead man sat up and began to talk, and Jesus gave him back to his mother. Luke 7:11 - 15

As told in Luke 7:11-18, Naim (or Naïn) is the city where Christ raised to life the only son of a widow. According to Luke, the village of Naim was one of the cities in the Galilee where Jesus toured, accompanied by His 12 apostles. During this visit, He performed the miracle.

Death and widowhood forces us to look at life in a new way. We need help with our pain, loneliness, and grief. **NAIM** is a Rockford Diocesan organization of widows and widowers who support each other in survival. It offers widowed men and women of all ages the opportunity to maintain a normal way of life in new circumstances with the empathy, friendship, emotional and spiritual support of others who have traveled the same path. **NAIM** helps the widowed cope socially and spiritually and work through the grief process. It's a place to meet new people in a safe and nurturing social environment. Membership is open to all Catholics and non-Catholic spouses (any age) of a deceased Catholic.

The **Holy Trinity Chapter of NAIM** draws from Catholic parishes in the Fox Valley and is one of seven in the Rockford Diocesan Council of NAIM. The Chapter meets monthly (February–November) at St. Peter Church, 1891 Kaneville Rd., Geneva. Meetings begin and end with prayer and include a speaker or activity. Meetings from April—September are at 7:00 p.m.; meetings in October, November, and February are at 1:00 p.m. The first Friday of every month, the group attends morning mass, followed by breakfast. Notices of formal monthly meetings appear in the St. Patrick bulletin.

In addition to the monthly meeting, several get-togethers are held at area restaurants and other venues during the month and annual meetings are held with the other six chapters in the diocese.

The St. Patrick Bereavement Ministry extends an invitation to newly-widowed men and women of the parish to consider NAIM. Guests are always welcome. For many people, NAIM has come to mean "someone understands and someone cares, because that someone is also widowed." For more information, call chapter president Barbara Borkowicz, 630-208-9861. The group always needs volunteers to drive those who are unable to drive to events.