

You are Invited



Jesus said: "My sheep hear my voice, I know them, and they follow me....."

*To a Mass for Those Affected by Crime, Abuse or Violence
St. Mary's Cathedral, San Francisco
April 25, 2010
3:30 p.m.*

***This Mass is Sponsored by The Restorative Justice Program of the
Office of Public Policy & Social Concerns of the
Archdiocese of San Francisco***

What is Restorative Justice?

Restorative Justice is a process that seeks, insofar as possible, to heal the harm caused by crime. It does this by determining and addressing the needs of those affected by crime, who include victims, survivors, offenders, their families, witnesses, communities and the social services and law enforcement representatives involved.

Restorative justice emphasizes the importance of elevating the role of crime victims and community members through more active involvement in the justice process, holding offenders directly accountable to the people and communities they have violated, restoring the emotional and material losses of victims, and providing a range of opportunities for dialogue, negotiation, and problem solving, whenever possible, which can lead to a greater sense of community safety, social harmony, and peace for all involved. (Mark Umbreit, University of Minnesota)

Seven Values of Restorative Justice

- 1. Crime is an offense against human beings.*
- 2. Victims and the community are central to the justice process.*
- 3. The first priority of the justice process is to assist victims.*
- 4. The second priority of the justice process is to restore the community, to the degree possible.*
- 5. The offender has a personal responsibility to victims and to the community for crimes committed.*
- 6. The offender will develop improved competency and understanding.*
- 7. Stakeholders share responsibilities for restorative justice through partnerships for action.*

