Stephen Ministry ***Love one another ...as I have loved you.***

Stephen Ministry is…

A program of St. Robert Bellarmine Faith Community that equips lay persons to provide distinctively Christian one-to-one care to those who are experiencing all kinds of life needs and circumstances, both in our parish and the community.

Stephen Ministers are committed Christian people who…

- Express God's care through their lives to others;
- Receive 50 hours of initial training in important caring ministry skills and concepts;
- Are commissioned by SRB's Pastor as Stephen Ministers after completing their initial training;
- Visit another person regularly and dependably and offer Christian support and care;
- Participate in regular support and supervision under the guidance of trained Stephen Leaders;
- Are committed to preserving the confidential nature of the caring relationship;
- Serve for at least two years;
- Receive continuing education and skill building throughout their years of service

Meets the Needs of People

There are times when each of us needs the care of another person, a Christian friend, a Stephen Minister. These needs include but are not limited to…

- The hospitalized
- The terminally ill and their families
- People who move into or out of our community
- Those grieving a death or serious loss
- The homebound or those individuals residing in a nursing home
- Those with a job crisis
- The aging and elderly
- Those with disabilities and their families
- Those facing life transitions
- The separated or divorced
- Families experiencing birth or adoption
- Those in spiritual crisis

How you can support SRB's Stephen Ministry

- *Pray* for our Stephen Leaders and Stephen Minsters as they provide Christian care to
- *Pray* for all who are receiving confidential care through the Stephen Ministry Program
- *Tell* Stephen Leaders about those who might benefit from the care of a Stephen Minister – be sure to get that person's permission first
- *Tell* others in our community about the availability of SRB's Stephen Ministry and the care they can provide
- *Receive* Stephen Ministry when you are in need of supportive Christian care
- *Consider* serving as a Stephen Minister