

April 25, 2002

This was the first letter that Diana Flahive sent to friends and those with whom she had shared her faith journey. The impetus was how some in the leadership of our Church were responding or not responding to the sexual abuse scandal and other decisions and workings of our Church.

May Day May Day

Dear Friends,

Last Sunday I spoke at our Parish Forum to the pain and struggle I am now in regarding what it means for me to be a woman of integrity and faith in today's Catholic organization.

There are so many incongruencies that are so blatant. Priests who are known to abuse children are allowed to keep their priestly faculties and celebrate the Eucharist. Yet someone who has not received her annulment papers is not allowed to be a full member of the Catholic Church and not invited to the Eucharistic table. And the list goes on.

I am feeling a strong call to gather people who resonate with this pain and frustration. To that end, Marty and I are hosting a gathering for prayer, voicing, discernment and move to action on May 1 (May Day) @ 6:30 PM at our home. Pat McCormick, an activist and Sister of Loretto will be joining us, as will Byron Plumley, known for his leadership in non-violence and action and as a professor at Regis University.

Please call (303-832-4188) or send e-mail if you are planning to come. Friends of like minds are also invited. Just have them call me.

I look forward to our time together as community who are experiencing struggle, pain and also hope and possibility.

In hope and prayer,
Diana Flahive