

# Real Life Landings

**"I thank the Lord for putting *Landings* in my path to meet new people and bring the love and hope of Jesus Christ to those who have stepped away for a time."**

Deacon Bill Dwyer, *Landings* Coordinator  
St. Anne- St Catherine Faith Community,  
Littleton, MA

**"*Landings* is my favorite ministry. It is quite an honor and humbling to walk this spiritual journey with an inactive Catholic. It is said that the 'longest journey is from the head to the heart.' This is so true of a Catholic returning to the Church...."**

Sister Brenda Query, IHM, *Landings* Coordinator  
St. Gregory the Great, Virginia Beach, VA

**"*Landings* sessions provide a true reflection of the Lord's love for us... whether we last were at Mass a month or decades ago. The warm welcome I received during *Landings* was critical to my return to the Church after 33 years."**

Melanie Rigney  
*Landings* Returnee and Catholic Author

**"With *Landings*, there was an organized program for me to be welcomed back to the Church in a gradual and educational way."**

Joe Witherspoon  
*Landings* Returnee and *Landings* Coordinator  
Queen of Heaven Cemetary, Oakland, CA

**"I was a team leader for two years and always found blessings in the attendees. They brought me face to face with the possibility of losing faith no matter what the reason. Helping them return to God was joyful."**

Candace, on Twitter  
Former *Landings* Leader, OH

**To begin a *Landings* ministry,  
contact:**

***Landings* International  
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Suite 108  
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# Landings

INTERNATIONAL

**Helping you welcome returning  
and inactive Catholics**

**A Reconciliation Ministry  
of the Paulist Fathers**

# Landings



## *Making Safe* **Landings**

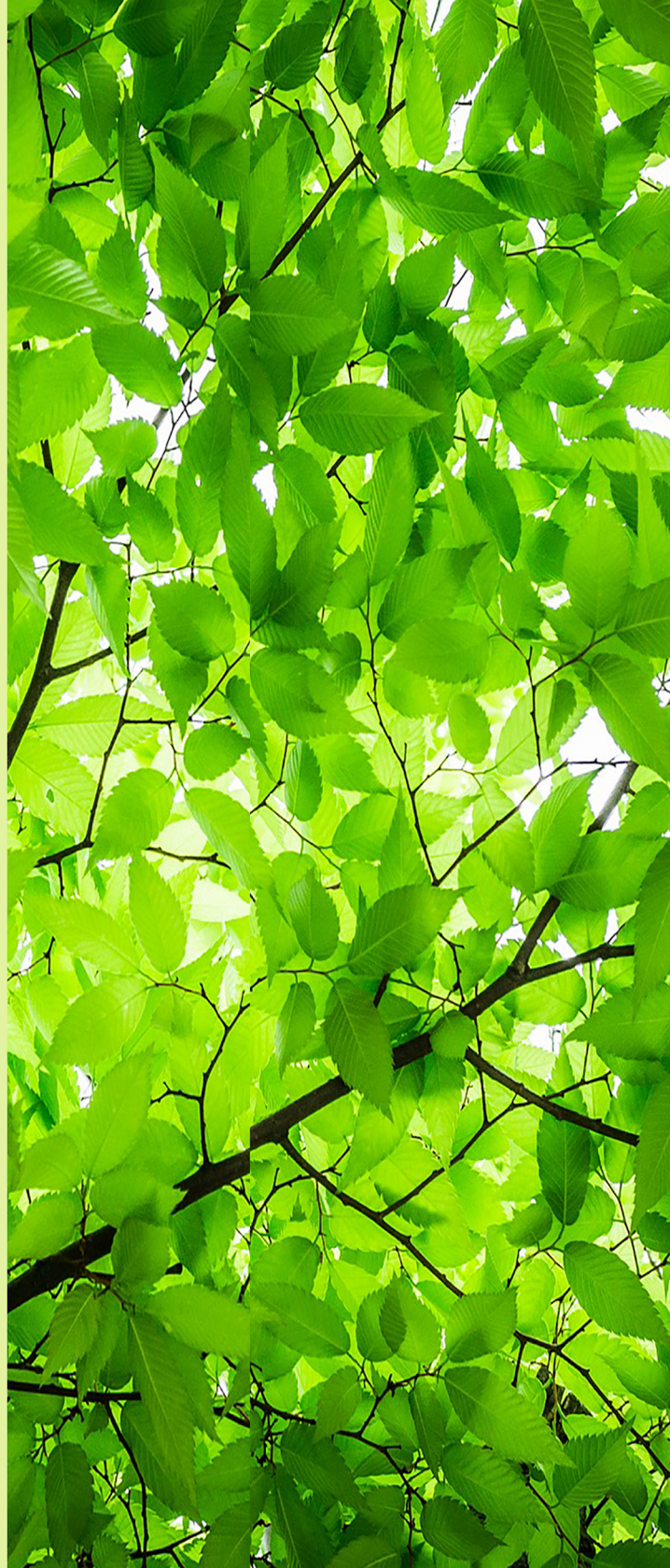
*Landings* is a parish ministry designed to enable small groups of active, trained lay Catholics to welcome and offer hospitality to returning Catholics. *Landings, a ministry of the heart*, is a process of faith formation which reintroduces the returnee to the faith.

In eight sessions, those who are interested in returning explore their Catholic faith with an opportunity to reflect on their stories in the context of God's action throughout their lives. By hearing the inspirational stories of others on the journey home to God, *Landings* offers the example of a lived faith.

*Landings* is confidential, leaving judgements, pressure and insensitivity at the door, as the group shares their spiritual journeys. By offering a *Landings* program in your parish or faith community, you can provide a safe harbor, or *landing place*, for returning Catholics to explore and enrich their faith and find their future within the Church.

*Landings* offers returning Catholics:

- a **supportive community** to ask questions and discuss issues in a confidential setting.
- an **opportunity** to be with practicing Catholics trying to live out their own faith life.
- a **safe environment** to share their spiritual journey and deal with the challenges of Church and society.



## *The Benefits of* **Landings**

For forty years, *Landings*, a reconciliation ministry of the Paulist Fathers, has been introduced in eighty-five dioceses in the United States, Canada, the United Kingdom, Singapore and Southeast Asia. More than a million and a half people have participated in this process of renewal.

Parishes and faith communities that offer *Landings* become more aware of the needs of the returning Catholics in their midst. Many returnees express a deep appreciation for a program designed with them in mind.

*Landings* provides a confidential way to re-enter parish life with new friends who know and support them. Many *Landings* graduates often get involved in parish or social justice ministries, adult faith formation, and retreats. Some later join a *Landings* team, ready to welcome those returning.

*Landings* offers active Catholics:

- a **participation** in the Church's mission of evangelization and reconciliation by welcoming those who have been away.
- an **opportunity** for organized faith sharing.
- a **time** to grow and learn from the spiritual journeys of others, sharing faith and praying together.