The People of God
Living with HIV/AIDS

Fr. Chris Ponnet
St. Camillus Center for Spiritual Care

Elizabeth Crabb Breen, PhD
David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA

Catholic HIV/AIDS Ministry, Archdiocese of Los Angeles
The People of God
Living with HIV/AIDS:
Resources for Education and Pastoral Care

Catholic HIV/AIDS Ministry, Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Los Angeles
THE LEAST OF THESE

Verses: Cantor

1. Lord, when did we see you hungry and forsaken,
2. When did I neglect you? Surely I’d have noticed
3. Lord, when did I let you, let you be my scapegoat?
4. Lord, I want to help you carry your great burden;
5. Simon, do you love me? Yes, you know I love you.

1. helpless and imprisoned, a stranger in need?
2. if you had been wanting for anything.
3. When did I deny you? Lord, is it I?
4. show you that I love you with all my heart.
5. Simon, if you love me, care for my sheep.
Refrain: All

“What you do for the least of these, you have done for me.

When you care for the least of these, you have cared for me, you have cared for me.”

Text: Based on Matthew 25:31-46 and John 21:15-17. Text and music © 2014, Bob Hurd. Published by OCP. All rights reserved.
Mother of God, Light in all Darkness

Mother of God, Light in All Darkness,

Shelter Him, our flame of hope,
With your tender hands.

And in our times of dread and nightmares,
Let Him be our dream of comfort.

And in our times of physical pain
and suffering,
Let Him be our healer.

And in our times of separation from God and one another,
Let Him be our communion.

AMEN.

This icon is used with the permission of the National Catholic AIDS Network. It is available through Catholic HIV/AIDS Ministry, Los Angeles Archdiocese.
The People of God
Living with HIV/AIDS:
Resources for Education and Pastoral Care

Catholic HIV/AIDS Ministry, Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Los Angeles
The People of God Living with HIV/AIDS: Resources for Education and Pastoral Care

Table of Contents

I Introduction
   • Vision and Mission of the Los Angeles Archdiocese HIV/AIDS Ministry
   • Leadership and Collaborators

II Church Statements and Resources

III General Information about HIV/AIDS

IV Pastoral Care Resources

V Appendix
The People of God Living with HIV/AIDS: Resources for Education and Pastoral Care

II Catholic Church Statements and Resources

- What U.S. Catholic Leaders have said about HIV/AIDS
- The Many Faces of AIDS (U.S. Conference Catholic Bishops)
- Called to Compassion and Responsibility (U.S. Conference Catholic Bishops)
- A Global Catholic Perspective: The Church’s Response to AIDS (Msgr. R. Vitillo)
- Ethical Issues Related to Preventing the Further Spread of HIV: Teachings and Actions of the Catholic Church (Msgr. R. Vitillo)
- A Witness to Truth and Solidarity: The Catholic Church Response to HIV and AIDS in Sub-Saharan Africa (Msgr. R. Vitillo)
Caritas NIGERIA...fullness of life for all

CHURCH TEACHES JESUS

• Matthew 5: “Blessed are the poor in spirit…..” Jesus

• Matthew 25:31 “When did we visit you when you were sick....When you did it to the least of these you did to me.” Jesus
CHURCH STATEMENTS

• 2016 Pope Francis WORLD AIDS DAY: “everyone use responsible behavior to present the spread of this disease.”

• 2010 Pope Benedict: “There may be a basis in the case of some individuals, as perhaps when a male prostitute uses condom, where this can be a first step in the direction of a moralization…”

• 1997 USCCB: “Persons with AIDS are not distant, unfamiliar people, the objects of our mingled pity and aversion. We must keep them present in our consciousness, as individuals and as a community, and embrace them with unconditional love.” (II.3)
LOS ANGELES ARCHDIOCESE

Cardinal Mahony 1998: “The current AIDS epidemic in our country and in our local community places up the Church and its members a pastoral obligation.”
“TRUTH SETS YOU FREE”  JESUS

• CATHOLIC HIV/AIDS MINISTRY begun in LA Archdiocese Feb 1986 Cardinal Mahony and has continued under Archbishop Gomez
• AIDS Resources Documents and Website
• AIDS educators at congress, regions and parish/school
• WORLD AIDS DAY Mass at Cathedral
• AIDS WALK LOS ANGELES  Youth and parish walkers witness
• Annual Anointing Mass sponsored by parish AIDS Ministry St. Francis
• HIV/AIDS Visiting of person at LAC USC by St. Camillus Center
III  General Information about HIV/AIDS

• Chronology of the HIV/AIDS Pandemic (Dr. E.C. Breen)
• About HIV & AIDS (HIV.gov)
• Psychosocial Needs of HIV Patients (R.W Y. Chung & I.W.S. Chan, from *HIV Manual, Third Ed.*, Hong Kong)
• Joint Statement by U.N. Human Rights Experts…on ending AIDS by 2030
Key Points and Facts in the Chronology of the HIV/AIDS Pandemic

- **Summer 1981**: Reports of *Pneumocystis* pneumonia, Kaposi’s sarcoma, and other unusual infections = first cases of *AIDS*
- **Late 1983/Early 1984**: Isolation of the virus that causes AIDS = *Human Immunodeficiency Virus-*1 (HIV-1) or in most cases, simply as HIV
- **1985**: Introduction of first HIV-1 antibody test in the U.S. = testing blood to be used for transfusion and persons for presence of HIV infection
- **1995-96**: Introduction of combination anti-retroviral drug therapy, known as *highly active anti-retroviral therapy* (HAART)
- **2001**: United Nations Declaration of Commitment on HIV/AIDS: “…to address the problem of HIV/AIDS in all its aspects and to secure a global commitment to combat it in a comprehensive manner…”
- **2011**: “Treatment as Prevention” study demonstrates risk of passing HIV from HIV-infected person to uninfected sexual partner = reduced by 96% if on anti-retroviral treatment.
- **2016**: average 20-year-old HIV-infected person in the U.S. = expected to live to age of 73; average 20-year-old HIV-uninfected person in the U.S. = expected to live to age of 85.
About HIV & AIDS (from HIV.gov)

In handout: Abbreviated version from The People of God Living with HIV/AIDS, Suggested Materials for Presentations


What Are HIV and AIDS?

HIV is a virus spread through certain body fluids that attacks the body's immune system, specifically the CD4 cells, often called T cells. Over time, HIV can destroy so many of these cells that the body can’t fight off infections and disease. These special cells help the immune system fight off infections. Untreated, HIV reduces the number of CD4 cells (T cells) in the body. This damage to the immune system makes it harder and harder for the body to fight off infections and some other diseases. Opportunistic infections or cancers take advantage of a very weak immune system and signal that the person has AIDS. Learn more about the stages of HIV and how to know whether you’re infected.

What Is HIV?

HIV stands for human immunodeficiency virus. It is the virus that can lead to acquired immunodeficiency syndrome, or AIDS, if not treated. Unlike some other viruses, the
**HIV** is a virus that attacks cells of your body’s **immune system**

**HUMAN IMMUNODEFICIENCY VIRUS**

**CD4 (T HELPER) CELLS**

**↓ CD4 CELLS = AIDS**

**ACQUIRED IMMUNE DEFICIENCY SYNDROME**

If left untreated, HIV can lead to AIDS. **Treatment matters!**
HIV is spread through direct contact with certain body fluids from someone who has HIV:

- Blood
- Semen and pre-seminal fluid
- Rectal fluids
- Vaginal fluids
- Breast milk

You can’t get HIV through casual contact.
In the U.S., **HIV** is mainly spread through:

+ Sexual behaviors
+ Needle or syringe use
You can't rely on symptoms to tell if you have HIV.

The only way to know for sure that you have HIV is to get tested.
Knowing your HIV status helps you make **healthy decisions** to prevent getting or transmitting HIV.

If you think you’ve been exposed to HIV, **GET TESTED AS SOON AS POSSIBLE!**
APPROXIMATELY **ONE OUT OF SEVEN** HIV+ PERSONS IN THE U.S. IS UNAWARE OF HIS OR HER DIAGNOSIS

AMONG PERSONS LIVING WITH HIV **AGE 13-24 YEARS**, NEARLY HALF (44%) DO NOT KNOW THEIR DIAGNOSIS.
% of Diagnoses of HIV Infection by Age at Diagnosis among Adults and Adolescents, 2016—United States

TOTAL HIV INFECTIONS IN 2016 = 39,782
Est. adults and adolescents in the U.S. living with HIV = 1,122,900

% Living with HIV Infection by Sex and Transmission Category, among Adults and Adolescents, Year-end 2015—United States

Male
750,921

- Male-to-male sexual contact: 71%
- Heterosexual contact: 11%
- Injection drug use (IDU): 11%
- M-M + IDU: 7%
- Perinatal: 1%

Female
238,034

- Male-to-male sexual contact: 75%
- Heterosexual contact: 22%
- Injection drug use (IDU): 22%
- Perinatal: 2%
# of AIDS Classifications by Transmission Category and Year of Classification among HIV+ Adults and Adolescents, 1985–2015, United States and Dependent Areas

TOTAL U.S. PERSONS WITH AIDS THROUGH 2016 = 1,232,346

- Male-to-male sexual contact
- Heterosexual contact
- Injection drug use
- Male-to-male sexual contact and IDU
- Other

TOTAL U.S. PERSONS WITH AIDS THROUGH 2016 = 1,232,346

1985–2015, United States and Dependent Areas
% of AIDS Classifications by Race/Ethnicity and Year of Classification among HIV+ Adults and Adolescents, 1985–2015—United States and Dependent Areas
% of AIDS Classifications by Race/Ethnicity and Year of Classification among HIV+ Adults and Adolescents, 1985–2015—United States and Dependent Areas

% U.S. population by Race/Ethnicity

Classifications, %

Black/African American
White
Hispanic/Latino

AA 12%
% of AIDS Classifications by Race/Ethnicity and Year of Classification among HIV+ Adults and Adolescents, 1985–2015—United States and Dependent Areas

% U.S. population by Race/Ethnicity

White
Black/African American
Hispanic/Latino

Year of classification
% of AIDS Classifications by Race/Ethnicity and Year of Classification among HIV+ Adults and Adolescents, 1985–2015—United States and Dependent Areas

% U.S.
population
by Race/
Ethnicity

W 63%

L 18%

AA 12%

Black/African American

White

Hispanic/Latino

Year of classification

% of AIDS Classifications by Race/Ethnicity and Year of Classification among HIV+ Adults and Adolescents, 1985–2015—United States and Dependent Areas
The People of God Living with HIV/AIDS: Resources for Education and Pastoral Care

III General Information about HIV/AIDS

• Chronology of the HIV/AIDS Pandemic (Dr. E.C. Breen)
• About HIV & AIDS (HIV.gov)
• Psychosocial Needs of HIV Patients (R.W Y. Chung & I.W.S. Chan, from HIV Manual, Third Ed., Hong Kong)
• Joint Statement by U.N. Human Rights Experts…on ending AIDS by 2030
Psychosocial Needs of HIV Patients

by

Rita Wai Yee Chung, Nurse Specialist
Iris Wing Sze Chan, PhD/Clinical Psychologist

Stanley Ho Centre for Emerging Infectious Diseases
The Chinese University of Hong Kong

Centre for Health Protection
Department of Health
Hong Kong Special Administrative Region Government

- Introduction
- Receiving the bad news - psychosocial impacts of an HIV diagnosis
- Psychological needs of HIV/AIDS patients when physical health becomes stabilized
e.g., Treatment-related stress, Relationships and sexual behaviours, Child bearing issues
- Towards the end of life
- Psychosocial interventions in HIV/AIDS
- The social interface
III General Information about HIV/AIDS

• Chronology of the HIV/AIDS Pandemic (Dr. E.C. Breen)
• About HIV & AIDS (HIV.gov)
• Psychosocial Needs of HIV Patients (R.W Y. Chung & I.W.S. Chan, from *HIV Manual, Third Ed.*, Hong Kong)
• Joint Statement by U.N. Human Rights Experts…on ending AIDS by 2030

“...a group of international human rights experts call on States to seize the opportunity to recommit to and ensure the full respect, protection and fulfillment of human rights in the efforts to end the AIDS epidemic by 2030.”

We call on States to:

1. remove punitive laws, policies and practices...
2. prevent and address violence against key populations
3. increase human rights and legal literacy for people living with, at risk of and affected by HIV...
4. eliminate HIV and key populations-related stigma and discrimination in all settings...
Joint Statement by U.N. Human Rights Experts on the occasion of the High-Level Meeting on ending AIDS by 2030

5. eliminate discrimination and violence against women and girls…

6. adopt a new target to prevent HIV among people who inject drugs…

7. strengthen human rights capacities of law makers, law enforcement and the judiciary; and health care workers

8. ensure health services meet the right to health framework criteria…

9. promote and protect human rights defenders working on HIV-related issues…

10. establish and strengthen redress and accountability mechanisms.
Estimated number of adults and children newly infected with HIV | 2016

- **Middle East and North Africa**: 18,000 (11,000–39,000)
- **North America and western and central Europe**: 73,000 (68,000–78,000)
- **Caribbean**: 18,000 (15,000–22,000)
- **Latin America**: 97,000 (79,000–120,000)
- **Eastern Europe and central Asia**: 190,000 (160,000–220,000)
- **Eastern and southern Africa**: 790,000 (710,000–870,000)
- **Western and central Africa**: 370,000 (270,000–490,000)
- **Asia and the Pacific**: 270,000 (190,000–370,000)
- **Latin America**: 97,000 (79,000–120,000)

**Total: 1.8 million**
Adults and children newly infected with HIV | 1990–2016

[Line graph showing the number of adults and children newly infected with HIV from 1990 to 2016, with the range of uncertainty shaded in light blue. The y-axis represents millions, and the x-axis represents years from 1990 to 2016.]
REDUCTIONS IN NEW INFECTIONS ARE OFF TARGET
Adults and children estimated to be living with HIV  |  2016

Total: 36.7 million

76.1 million people infected with HIV since the start of the epidemic
Estimated adult and child deaths from AIDS | 2016

Total: 1.0 million

35 million deaths since the start of the epidemic
V Appendix

• Terms, Definitions, and Calculations Used in CDC HIV Surveillance Publications (CDC.gov)

• Bibliography

• Networking Information (Catholic/Community/National Resources)

IV  Pastoral Care Resources

• Pastoral Care Guidelines
• Guidelines for Sacraments and Pastoral Ministry
• Catechetical Guidelines for Parish HIV/AIDS Programs
• Suggested Materials for Presentations
• “What Would Jesus Do?” Summary Handout for teachers/pastors
• HIV/AIDS Retreat Format
• Model for an Interfaith Service
• Worship Resources: HIV/AIDS Awareness/Anointing of the Sick Mass
• How to create an AIDS Quilt Panel
• Sample Homilies for WORLD AIDS DAY Dec 1st & Bilingual Text
Pastoral Care Guidelines for persons with HIV/AIDS

Adapted from “Guidelines for the Giving of Pastoral Care to Those Persons who are Infected/affected by HIV/AIDS” by Rev. Don Nations, Archdiocesan AIDS Resource Manual, Portland, Oregon.

1. Let the individual set the agenda.
2. Confidentiality is a must.
3. Do not ask how...
4. Avoid the “Blame Game.”
5. Compassion is the key.
6. Confront your own fears.
7. Focus on life, not death.
Pastoral Care Guidelines for persons with HIV/AIDS

Adapted from “Guidelines for the Giving of Pastoral Care to Those Persons who are Infected/affected by HIV/AIDS” by Rev. Don Nations, Archdiocesan AIDS Resource Manual, Portland, Oregon.

8. Communicate hope.
9. Affirm the worth of the person.
10. Feel free to show emotion.
11. Remember to touch.
12. Look for the stages of grief.
14. Expressions of spirituality vary from person to person.
Pastoral Care Guidelines for persons with HIV/AIDS

Adapted from “Guidelines for the Giving of Pastoral Care to Those Persons who are Infected/affected by HIV/AIDS” by Rev. Don Nations, Archdiocesan AIDS Resource Manual, Portland, Oregon.

15. Avoid saying, “I know how you feel.”


17. Pastoral care is usually a long process.

18. Know your limits.

19. Every situation can be used by God for growth as God’s people.

20. Doctrine and dogma do not substitute for sharing and love.
HIV/AIDS: Persons like Dan and family
Section IV (continued): Guidelines for Sacraments and Pastoral Ministry

• What would Jesus do?.....
• Grace is a gift not earned...
• Thru Baptism persons have a right to sacraments...
• Children baptism has been part of our tradition...
• Only one sponsor is required by canon law and witness is allowed
• Sacrament of the sick is freely given and includes absolution
• Burial is a promise of baptism...
• Resurrection and the healing promise of Jesus is freely offered
Additional Resources in Section IV

• Interfaith services
• Anointing Masses
• AIDS Quilts panel
• Homily/reflections
HIV/AIDS has also raised awareness of discrimination and injustice. We as church must condemn as immoral any discrimination in word or action. We come today to seek forgiveness if we--as individuals or as church--are guilty of homophobia, sexism or racism. We commit to the spirituality of our Psalm--asking to see the face of God--especially in those who are ill.
“Catholic Ministry with HIV/AIDS is part of the Church’s vision, mission and actions based on the Consistent Life ethics, ALL LIFE IS SACRED. We are all sisters and brothers in God’s Love. “Who is my neighbor? The greatest command is to Love God, neighbor as yourself.. Blessed are the poor in spirit…who mourn (Matt 5) and when you did it to the least you did to me (Matt 25) all require us to condemn the judgement and hate and be part of the healing and hope.”
“The ministers of the Gospel must be people who can warm the hearts of the people, who walk through the dark night with them, who know how to dialogue and to descend themselves into their people’s night, into the darkness, but without getting lost. The people of God want pastors, not clergy acting like bureaucrats or government officials.”
V Appendix

• Terms, Definitions, and Calculations Used in CDC HIV Surveillance Publications (CDC.gov)

• Bibliography

• Networking Information (Catholic/Community/National Resources)
The People of God Living with HIV/AIDS: Resources for Education and Pastoral Care

V Appendix

• Networking Information

St. Camillus Outreach/
Catholic HIV/AIDS Ministry Los Angeles Archdiocese
www.stcamilluscenter.org
1911 Zonal Avenue, Los Ángeles, CA 90033
Office/Fr. Chris Ponnet: 323-225-4461 x221
Fax: 323-225-9096
Spanish language information/Manuel Torres:
323-225-4461 x124
Information: 213-637-7HIV
The People of God
Living with HIV/AIDS:
Resources for Education and Pastoral Care

http://www.stcamilluscenter.org/catholic-hivaids-ministry/

QUESTIONS?   COMMENTS?