
Ms. Carole Shaw

2005 Recipient of NACSDC's James J. Young Ministry Award

Carole Shaw, Portland, Oregon Archdiocese, has been doing divorce ministry through her parish of St. Anne in Grants Pass, Oregon for over 20 years. Her work is a tribute and witness of what we all can do to answer God's call through our baptism. Of note as well is that the Archdiocese of Portland has no professional staff within its structure to oversee divorce ministry. Carole has answered the call of being church to so many.

Carole is a Eucharistic Minister, Lector, Certified Pastoral Assistant and Director of Religious Education. Her certificate was obtained through the Lay Ecclesial Ministry Formation, Archdiocese of Portland. She has set up and run a Divorced, Separated and Widowed Program which is supported through donations, parish dinners and yard sales. In addition, she leads a no-fee retreat for her facilitators once a year that offers training and support. She has taken her program and shared it with other parishes in the Archdiocese. She is also available to "listen" to anyone in need of guidance at the parish center every Wednesday morning.

Carole is the divorced mother of two daughters, raising them alone without help or assistance. She has worked as a hair stylist for 35 years, owns her own home and gave her girls the opportunity of a college education. Through the years she has opened her home to teens that needed a safe place, and also to divorced women in need. She has proven that ministry does not just

happen in the confines of a church structure.

Currently, while continuing all of the above, she has a small beauty shop within an Assisted Living complex and reaches out to the elderly. She is the proud grandmother of three grandchildren. Truly, Carole has very much continued the vision of Fr. Young and the full intent of Vatican II. ■



Carole Shaw poses with her award in the University of Notre Dame's Basilica of the Sacred Heart.

The James J. Young Ministry Award is presented annually in tribute to and in memory of Fr. James J. Young, CSP, whose pioneering ministry to reconcile separated and divorced Catholics led to the foundation of NACSDC in 1974. The award serves as a recognition and affirmation of

another's service that directly affected the beginning, development, or expansion of pastoral care to separated, divorced, and remarried Catholic families. More details and a nomination form can be found in the latter pages of this issue.

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after a divorce are still prohibited from receiving communion. One of the most important tasks of this ministry is to help divorced and remarried Catholics be reconciled to the Church in such a way that they can once again receive communion. ■

Christopher Witt, CSP, is a former member of the NACSDC Board of Directors. Because his article, first published in the Fall 2000 issue of Jacob's Well, has not lost its timeliness in the intervening years, the current Board believes it bears repeating.