



*Are you a woman who is now in, or has ever had,
a relationship with a Roman Catholic priest? If so, know ~*

- ☞ You are **not alone**.
- ☞ **Your story** is important!
- ☞ **No one but you** can tell the story.
- ☞ Your experience is a **vital aspect of church history**.
- ☞ **You are a living link** in the history of the Roman Catholic Church (RCC).
- ☞ And ~ RCC history **needs** your story!
- ☞ **You** are invited to share your story ~ *in safety and in confidence*.

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Seeking **your story** ~
to create a more authentic
Catholic Church history...



Seeking **your story** to create a more authentic **historical record**

WHOSE STORIES?

*Peter's wives: "bearers of tradition" —
women in relationships with Roman Catholic priests*

Matthew 8:14, Mark 1:30, and Luke 4:38 each mention Simon Peter's mother-in-law, indicating the existence of his wife ~ **yet her name and story remain untold.**

- ☞ Bring her story to life by sharing your own!
- ☞ **You are a living link** in the history of the Roman Catholic Church (RCC).
- ☞ And ~ RCC history **needs** your story!

WHY IS THIS IMPORTANT?

The history of the Roman Catholic Church (RCC) is incomplete without the inclusion of the multitude of women who have and continue to live secret lives in intimate relationships with catholic priests.

Documenting these life stories will help fill in the historical gap of church history which has (for the most part) excluded women's experiences. The resulting oral history records will become source documents available to future scholars, while also offering precious testimonies of support to other women in similar relationships.

Each story is a gift to be received. In each woman's own words, this gift will come to life, perhaps for the first time emerging from secrecy, to contribute toward the formation of a more authentic historical church record.

HOW WILL IT BE DONE?

The phrase "bearers of tradition" comes from The Smithsonian Folklife and Oral History Project. The term is used to describe people who ~ by being shapers, living links, and eyewitnesses in the historical chain ~ bring authenticity to the study of history and culture.

Utilizing the tools of oral history documentation, the interviewer ~ the Rev. Jeanne Favreau-Sorvillo ~ will invite interviewees to respond to a series of questions. Interviews will be arranged at the convenience of each

participant. **Any identifying information will only be available to the interviewer, held in strictest confidence, and not included in written documents.** Each final story will be subject to pre-approval by the interviewee to assure accuracy and integrity.

WHO IS THE INTERVIEWER?

The Reverend Jeanne Favreau-Sorvillo is a Doctor of Ministry candidate at San Francisco Theological Seminary. She is working on an oral history dissertation project to document the stories of women in relationships with RC priests. She herself was in such a relationship for almost nine years and is sensitive to the complexities associated with these relationships. Jeanne was interviewed by *Newsweek Magazine* in 1973 for an article entitled "Priests Who Date: The Third Way," drawing attention to this issue almost 40 years ago.

Today, Jeanne is an ordained minister in the United Church of Christ (UCC) and has been senior pastor for the past five years to a congregation in California. Her extensive pastoral and theological training, along with life experience, place her in a unique position to take on this oral history project.

HOW MAY I CONTACT HER?

The Rev. Jeanne Favreau-Sorvillo may be reached at jeannefs@ymail.com. *Please be assured of complete confidentiality, support and respect.*