

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### *Clergy Care Collective Launches to Support Mental Health of Clergy and Seminarians*

**Chicago, IL** — A powerful new nonprofit has launched to respond to a pressing but too often unspoken crisis: the mental health and holistic well-being of clergy, seminarians, and those discerning ministry. **Clergy Care Collective**, founded in Chicago but with national reach, is a 501(c)(3) public charity dedicated to offering support, advocacy, education, and community rooted in the Gospel of Jesus Christ and Catholic Social Teaching. The organization is intentionally ecumenical and welcomes all Christian traditions.

Founded by Rev. Matthew González, J.D., a lawyer and seminarian who has himself triumphed over mental illness, Clergy Care Collective seeks to break the silence around clergy mental illness and neurodivergence by creating safe, compassionate spaces for healing, resilience, and flourishing. The nonprofit provides programs such as peer support groups, workshops, pastoral care consultations, and advocacy training—along with a growing resource library and pastoral care toolkit.

“Too many pastors and seminarians suffer in silence,” said Rev. González. “Our faith calls us to love boldly, to support one another in weakness, and to build a Church where no one carries their burdens alone. Clergy Care Collective was born out of that call.”


The organization is also passionately engaged in **disability and mental health advocacy**, calling for structural changes to policies such as the Supplemental Security Income (SSI) benefit and asset limit, which leave many disabled individuals in poverty. A **charitable fund** has been established to support individuals awaiting SSI adjudication, many of whom face homelessness or extreme financial precarity. Through this work, the Collective joins a growing movement to bring the Gospel to bear on issues of justice, poverty, and human dignity.

Clergy Care Collective affirms the sacred role of ministry as a source of transformation for both individuals and communities. It honors the work of theologians, ethicists, and religious scholars through its **Affiliated Scholars network**, and celebrates the spiritual legacy of saints like **St. Dymphna**, patron of those suffering from mental illness, to whom the founder has consecrated his ministry.

Matthew invites churches, seminaries, religious institutions, and the media to partner with Clergy Care Collective in building systems of care that honor the humanity and sacred calling of all ministers. “If we are to build a Church that reflects Christ’s love,” he said, “we must begin by loving those who serve it—especially when they are suffering.”

To learn more, make a donation, or request an interview, please visit:

 <https://clergycarecollective.org>

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