



# FAQ'S

Rev. 10/02/19

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

*"Accountability Thru Transparency"*

*"Turning to Mary as Mother of the Church"*

### **1. What is "Restoring Catholic Trust, LLC"?**

Restoring Catholic Trust, LLC is a non-profit Pennsylvania Corporation. It was formed for the purpose of working with Catholic laity to help restore the bond of trust severely damaged by the clergy abuse scandal. It was initially formed by an independent task force of Former FBI Agents volunteering services for the "long term good of the Catholic faith." They have been joined by concerned laity from different walks of life. There is no bank account nor funding to sustain the mission.

### **2. Why are Former FBI Agents involved?**

Former FBI Agents have the objective to provide an investigative analysis on the findings and conclusions set forth in the August 2018 Pennsylvania Attorney General's Report of the 40<sup>th</sup> Statewide Investigating Grand Jury on the clergy sexual abuse issue. Their report can serve as a basis for legal strategy for the Church. FBI training provides the foundation to analyze complex multi-dimensional matters, make common sense of issues, reach logical conclusions and express findings and recommendations in easily understood reports. FBI background, expertise and professional experience will provide a most credible basis for acceptance and implementation of recommendations offered.

### **3. What roles do the Advisory Consultants have?**

The Advisory Consultants have specialized skill sets in various professions and have been leaders within the Church. Each plays a unique role. Each is expected to be a "critical thinker" with a reputation for exercising common sense and good judgment. Their value is reflected in offering positive solutions to help address complex, emotional and controversial matters. Preferred backgrounds include educators, business people, attorneys, accountants, psychiatrists, psychologists and physicians.

### **4. What roles do Spiritual Advisors have?**

A spiritual advisor is typically a cleric who stays focused on the overall mission of the Catholic Church. At least one advisor will be a Canon lawyer to help assure that all initiatives are compliant with Church laws.

## **5. How does the Bishop view Restoring Catholic Trust initiatives?**

Bishop Ronald W. Gainer understands the mission and role of Restoring Catholic Trust and has stated:

“The Most Reverend Ronald W. Gainer, Bishop of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Harrisburg, acknowledges and recognizes the existence of the newly formed Independent Laity Advisory Council of the Harrisburg Diocese. He extends his blessing for its successful implementation and development. He appreciates the assistance of an engaged laity to help him fulfill his pastoral duties.”

## **6. What are some of the initiatives?**

Crucial to the restoration of trust is the active involvement of the laity, especially women, in the pastoral life of the church. Some preliminary initiatives include:

- Conducting a diocesan-wide Questionnaire Survey to allow anyone the opportunity to vent their feelings and offer positive recommendations on identified relevant issues.
- Forming of an Independent Laity Advisory Council as a bridge to the Bishop to support a culture of transparency;
- Providing a report on “An Analysis of The Clergy Sexual Abuse Crisis” which will outline:
  - a) Understanding the Crisis
  - b) The Historical Context of The Crisis
  - c) Impact of The Crisis
  - d) Model Template for Lasting Change
- Inspiring a spiritual renaissance; and
- Evangelizing these initiatives to other dioceses throughout the United States.

## **7. Where can I get more information on “Restoring Catholic Trust”?**

Go to our website <[www.restoringcatholictrust.com](http://www.restoringcatholictrust.com)>

## **8. How can I become more involved?**

- a. Complete a Questionnaire Survey (and narrative);
- b. Organize & participate in parish forums and programs;
- c. Identify and support parish leaders; and
- d. Be a strong advocate for robust lay involvement in your parish.