



“Could you not watch with me one hour?” Jesus asked this question of his apostles. Could you not watch with me one hour is also a question that is asked of us. We live in a society in which we have become very used to warehousing our elderly and infirm. Not accustomed to death we no longer know how to deal with those who are dying or with our own emotions as the death of a loved one approaches.

Risen Savior developed a ministry to deal with this issue, one that answers Jesus’ question to the apostles. The 11<sup>th</sup> Hour Ministry is composed of specially trained lay people who are honored and privileged to visit with the terminally ill members of our parish and their families. They accompany the ill and their loved ones on their journey from this world to their Heavenly home.

The core of this ministry is keeping watch with the dying person, providing reassurance along with emotional, compassionate and spiritual support. The ministry employs all of the senses; providing music and prayer as well as tactile items such as wooden crosses specially carved to be held by the dying and soft handmade blankets.

The death of a Christian does not need to be a chaotic event. Our 11<sup>th</sup> Hour Ministers can help this time be a peaceful anticipation and grace-filled moment. If you know of someone who is terminally ill who would benefit from this ministry please call the parish at 821-1571 and ask for 11<sup>th</sup> Hour Ministries.