



Key Principles of Compassion Dialogue

1.

Begin and conclude the hour in prayer.

2.

This is a safe space to ask questions, share opinions, and explore ideas.

Everyone's opinion and faith journey needs to be respected and valued, even when it differs from Catholic teaching. All opinions must be stated with compassion for those involved in the conversation.

3.

Use "I" statements.

Speak for yourself, not others. Examples of speaking for others: "People believe...", "We think..." "You say..."

4.

The Facilitator is present to pose thoughtful questions, guide conversation, and listen.

5.

Share the floor.

Be intentional about allowing everyone a chance to voice their thoughts. Back and forth conversation between two individual should not occur.

6.

Connection, not competition

We gather to better understand one another, not to debate or correct.

7.

Conclude discussion by answering, "What is our common ground?"

8.

Seek additional care when needed.

Know that you are supported by your St. Louis community. Your ministers and small group facilitators are available to continue discussion with you. Please reach out to them anytime you feel lost, hurt, or curious.



St. Louis College Ministry



StLouisCYM



kerskine@stlouisparish.org