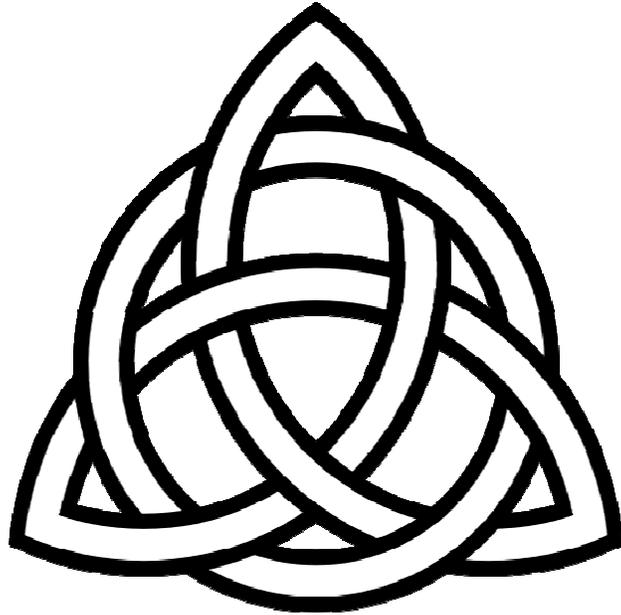


Touched by suicide?

Family member, friend, EMT, healthcare provider?

For all faiths and no faith,

Come as you are; bring all that it means to you.



## All Souls' Evensong

a service of prayer and music  
dedicated to survivors of suicide

Thursday, November 2, 5:30 pm

St. Peter's Episcopal Church

11 White Street, Rockland, ME

For more information, please call the parish office: 594-8191

*Free will offering to benefit NAMI (National Alliance on Mental Illness), Maine*

# **All Souls' Evensong Service dedicated to Those Touched by Suicide**

On Thursday, November 2 (The Feast of All Souls), at 5:30 pm there will be an Evensong Service of music and prayer dedicated to those whose lives have been touched by suicide. The service will be at St. Peter's Episcopal Church at 11 White St. Rockland.

Suicide can have a devastating emotional impact on all those who love and care for a person who intentionally takes his or her own life. Older traditions once understood suicide to be a mortal sin, with the understanding that it represented a rejection of the gift of life. That view is no longer the dominant understanding in any Christian tradition (Roman Catholic, Orthodox or Protestant). Unfortunately, though, that tradition has contributed to stigma and silence around the issue and less care for those suffering in the aftermath of suicide.

In a spirit of loving Christian witness and called to help bring healing, the rector of St. Peter's, Lael Sorensen, and a group from St. Peter's members have planned a service of remembrance, witness and renewing hope for family members, friends, emergency personnel, and healthcare providers who continue to live with the emotional, psychological and spiritual wounds of loving someone who has taken their own life.

This All Souls' Evensong is an occasion to remember all who have died by their own hand, acknowledge our collective reluctance to reach out to those who suffer, and stand in confident witness to Christ's redeeming love for all. Though drawn from the Anglican tradition of evensong, the service is purposefully intended for the widest possible audience: those of any faith or no faith at all. All are welcome. Instrumental and choral music will be offered by the St. Peter's Choir and Musicians, with prayers written especially for the service. For additional information contact the office of St. Peter's Church at 594-8191.