

Together in God's Love

Program Overview

Together in God's Love covers all of the key areas of the 2009 USCCB pastoral letter entitled, "Marriage: Love and Life in the Divine Plan", and includes key ideas from the Theology of the Body, and a focus on The Trinity, with current and relevant scientific research on healthy marriages.

This program combines cultural competency, psychological research, and Catholic theology as couples prepare to become one in Christ through holy matrimony. Using practical and active learning techniques, the program focuses on key aspects of marriage – Faith, Communication, Sexuality, and Stewardship – to express marriage as a communion of persons, just as the Holy Trinity is a communion of persons. It is attentive to various learning styles as well as cultural diversity through the use of language, games, role playing, and self-assessments.

All sessions begin with prayer and a self-assessment exercise. Every session also includes questions for the couple to discuss and time for reflection and concludes with prayer. Optional DVD testimonies can help add to the element of witness during each session. Each session is designed to take 2 hours to complete.

Overview

Session 1 – Marriage and Faith

Self-Assessment

God's Plan and Your Marriage

Sacraments: Sign and Realities

Saying "Yes" to God's Gifts

The Newlywed Game

Session 2 – Marriage and Communication

What is "Good Communication?"

Communication and the Image of Jesus and the Church

Styles of Expression

Communication is also Listening; Styles of Listening; Practice Communication!

Trust, Forgiveness, and Reconciliation; "I'm Sorry" Letter; "I Forgive You" Letter; An Empathy Letter;

When You Are Hurt

Second Marriage Issues; When Conflicts Get Ugly; Some Words about Domestic Violence

Session 3 – Marriage and Sexuality

Welcome and My Future Family activity

What the Church Really Teaches about Sex

Sex and the Holy Trinity: Mutual Self-Giving

Frequently Asked Questions about the Church's Teaching on Contraception

Session 4 – Marriage and Stewardship

Letting Your Light Shine

The Blessed Trinity and Stewardship

When Struggles Come

The Family Budget and Benchmark Budget

Seven Secrets to a Successful Marriage

Session 5 – Marriage and Family (supplemental materials provided by the diocese)

Developing Your Family as a Domestic Church

True Love is Faithful

Need for life-long growth together

The best way to change your spouse...

Foundation of stone

Friends and their place in the new family

Forbidden fruit

What is Jesus asking of you and me?

Costs for these materials

Couple's Workbook and additional packet of materials \$20 (per engaged couple)

Training for each Lead Couple \$40 (per couple, includes meal, Leader's manual and additional resources). This training is part two of the overall training process.

Contact the Office of Family Life to Order

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