

WINTER / SPRING 2007

CENTER FOR FAMILY MINISTRY

DIOCESE OF JOLIET



Center For Family Ministry

815-838-5334

E-mail: familyministry@dioceseofjoliet.org

Dr. James Healy, Director

Desirée Marciani, Associate Director

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MINISTRY WITH FAMILIES 101

to be offered April 17-19

Ministry with Families 101 is a two and one-half day experience, which equips both volunteers and professional church ministers to take a family perspective on whatever programs and activities they are involved in. From the Joliet Diocese, Denise Koliass, Director of Ministries at St. Isidore Parish in Bloomingdale, Penny Giunta, the Director of Religious Education from Holy Trinity in Westmont, and Barbara Jarvis Pauls, Pastoral Associate at Notre Dame Parish in Clarendon Hills, will be joining Jim Healy and Desirée Marciani at this tri-state conference, which will be held at the Bishop Lane Retreat Center in Rockford. The cost of the event, which includes two nights and all meals, is \$110 plus materials. Participants must attend all sessions. Although space is limited and apportioned to every diocese in the region, there may still be spaces available. Those interested in attending should call the Center and speak to Dr. Jim Healy, who is coordinating the event.

MARCH 24 – CONFERENCE FOR THE DIVORCED AND WIDOWED “When Life Blows You Down” - featuring Bill Dyer

Losing a spouse is an example of what Bill Dyer calls a “Lifeblow”. One minute everything can be fine and you’re in control; the next moment your life may be blown into pieces leaving you with shattered dreams. For years you may find yourself experiencing the conflicting feelings associated with grief. You struggle with who you are, why you are here, and may even become angry with God. Your feelings of despair leave you fearing that life will never get any better, but you hang onto the hope that it will.

After two near-death encounters, and going through a painful divorce, Bill Dyer felt that way. However, during a lengthy hospital stay he learned (with God’s help) that hope and peace *can* be restored. Bill Dyer’s presentation, based on his award-winning book, **When Life Blows You Down**, offers solid advice to help transform a person’s “Lifeblows” into life-giving, thriving, and healing experiences.

Bill’s series of “Lifeblows” led him to form his own personal development company, Quantum Leap Resources. Since 1994, he has traveled nationwide as a speaker and seminar leader. Bill believes fervently that it is our own self-limiting beliefs and attitudes that often keep us from making choices that enrich our lives and move us forward. The effectiveness of his message can be seen from the range of the people he’s worked with, which include Celebrity Cruises, The Central Intelligence Agency, the US Postal Service, Martin Marietta and many others.

The Saturday, March 24th event begins with a 9:00 a.m. check-in and concludes with a 4 pm. vigil Mass that satisfies the Sunday obligation, celebrated by Bishop J. Peter Sartain. Besides Bill’s presentations, the day will also include a newcomer’s orientation and further information about other sources of support and enrichment. The \$35.00 fee includes lunch, refreshments, and all materials. Please register by calling the Center at **815-838-5334** or by using the enclosed form. Those who care for the divorced and widowed are also welcome. For additional information, ask for Desirée Marciani.



March 3 MARRIAGE: IT’S WORTH IT!

Our marriages need three things to flourish: the Catholic Christian vision of marriage, life skills to carry out the vision, and social support, especially from our churches and our communities. While there has been considerable attention placed on the spirituality and theology of marriage and on skill development, less emphasis has been placed on how we actually support married couples in our parishes and in our communities.

All involved in marriage ministry and all those wanting to help in caring for marriage are invited on March 3 from 9:30 am to 12:30 pm for a high energy three hours that will get us thinking about little things and larger things we can do to encourage and strengthen marriages in our own families, and our own local settings. The \$10.00 per person cost covers all materials and refreshments. For more information or to register, please contact Dr. Jim Healy at **815-838-5334**.

On April 24th BESTOWING THE BLESSING ON OUR CHILDREN

In biblical times, fathers bestowed a special blessing on their first-born sons. These days, we want both mothers and fathers to bless all of their children. But what does it mean to “bless” our children? Building on the work of John Trent and Gary Smalley, Dr. Jim Healy, Director of the Center for Family Ministry, will demonstrate the specific elements of a parent’s blessing as it is described in Scripture, and will demonstrate why it has such a spiritually and psychologically profound effect on our children. It will become obvious that every parent - and every adult - has the power to bless the children they love, no matter how old the children are. The presentation will be held at Notre Dame Parish in Clarendon Hills, and will run from 7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. For more questions, please call Dr. Barbara Jarvis Pauls at **630-654-3365 ext 244**.

CATHOLIC ENGAGED ENCOUNTER

Catholic Engaged Encounter is a weekend experience designed to help couples prepare for marriage. Each couple is offered the time and opportunity to question, examine, and deepen their relationship with each other and with God. Couples are challenged to explore their relationship in a much deeper, more honest way than they have before.

Topics covered include self-awareness, human sexuality, communications, decision-making, Natural Family Planning, vocation, sacrament, unity and more. Personal reflection and communication are the main focus. Engaged Encounter is approved by the Diocese of Joliet as a marriage preparation program.

Engaged Encounter Weekends are scheduled on the following dates in 2007:

| | | |
|-----------|-----------|------------|
| Jan 12-14 | Feb 9-11 | Mar 23-25 |
| Apr 13-15 | May 18-20 | Sept 14-16 |
| Oct 12-14 | Nov 9-11 | Dec 7-9 |

Couples who book ahead should have no problems with registration. However, since the weekends do fill up, interested couples should contact Engaged Encounter as soon as possible.

For reservations or further information call **630-375-7072**, or check the web at www.engagedencounter.org

SPANISH ENGAGED ENCOUNTER

The next Spanish Engaged Encounter will be **April 28-29, 2007**, and will be held at the Saint Charles Pastoral Center. Couples attend on Saturday, beginning at 7:45 a.m., return to their homes Saturday night, and then come back to the Center for the Sunday session, which ends about 4:30 p.m. Additional weekends are scheduled for **July 21-22 and November 10-11**.

All sessions are in Spanish, and the cost is \$65.00. For reservations, or for more information, call the Hispanic Ministry Office at **815-834-4037**. These weekends are co-sponsored by the Center for Family Ministry and the Hispanic Ministry Office.

PARISH MARRIAGE PREPARATION

In order to help engaged couples fulfill the requirement for marriage preparation, every parish or cluster of cooperating parishes should have its own marriage preparation program. Catholic Engaged Encounter, offered at the diocesan level, works best as an alternative or supplement to the parish program. Dr. Jim Healy is available and eager to help a parish initiate a program, or to spend an evening with an existing parish program for encouragement and enrichment. Please call him at **815-838-5334**.

FAMILIES AND FAITH VISION AND PRACTICE FOR PARISH MINISTRY

Lifelong learning begins at home! This workshop raises the bar for parish leaders, and for families and households, to make a stronger commitment to exploring faith at home. Presenters include Leif Kehrwald, Center for Ministry Development Project Coordinator.

We seek to shift the paradigm of household faith growth from something optional and hoped for, to something that is expected, from being extraordinary to being ordinary. This workshop is based on the new book *Families and Faith* (Twenty-Third Publications) and is designed specifically for parish staff, ministry leaders, and faith formation leaders. It is an ideal learning opportunity for Generations of Faith teams, as it supports the vision of lifelong, intergenerational faith formation for the whole community.

This workshop will be held at St. Charles Pastoral Center on **April 17, 2007**. For more information, please call the Religious Education Office at **815-727-6411**.

FOCCUS TRAINING ON JANUARY 6

The FOCCUS Pre-Marital Inventory is part of the marriage preparation process for all engaged couples in the Diocese of Joliet. Priests, deacons, and other parish staff members, as well as parish-approved and trained lay couples, may use FOCCUS with engaged couples.

There will be a special one-day training program for FOCCUS at St. Mary of Gostyn Parish in Downers Grove on Saturday, January 6, 2007 from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. In addition, those who need FOCCUS materials will be able to purchase the Facilitator Manual for \$45.00 on that day. There will also be a small charge for lunch. Pre-registration is required. Please call **815-838-5334** for more information or to register.

MARRIAGE ENRICHMENT On January 21

All are invited to attend a presentation on marriage by Dr. Jim Healy, entitled **How to Get Married and Stay Engaged** at St. Isidore Parish in Bloomingdale, Sunday evening, January 21, from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. For more information, please contact Les and Elena DePaulo at **630-483-0781**.

WORLDWIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER WEEKEND

...is designed to help married couples communicate more intimately with one another in order to deepen and enrich their relationship. The weekend is free from the everyday routines, distractions, and tensions. An atmosphere is created where the couple can concentrate exclusively on each other in a private, confidential environment.

A Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend will allow you the opportunity to

- Take a new look at your marriage, priorities and lifestyle
- Learn simple, effective communication techniques
- Enhance the love that you share
- Rediscover your hopes and dreams.

For more information or to register, please call **630-577-0778** or on the web at www.wwme.org The schedule for 2007 is

| | | |
|-----------------|---------------|----------------|
| February 16-18 | April 13-15 | June 22-24 |
| September 21-23 | October 26-28 | Nov 30 – Dec 2 |

REMARRIAGE SEMINAR

The **Remarriage Seminar** is specifically designed for couples in, or entering, a marriage where one or both have had a previous marriage. This seminar is a unique opportunity for insight, reflection, and sharing. Sponsored by the Catholic Diocese of Rockford through the Family Life Office, it is open to all, including those planning an interfaith marriage or a Christian marriage in another church. Presentations include couple and/or group interaction. Topics covered with the help of the team of remarried couples include communication, conflict resolution, blending families, and expectations. The seminar will be held at the Bishop Lane Retreat Center, in Rockford, Illinois on the following dates on March 2-3 and May 11-12, 2007.

To obtain a brochure with more information or to register, please call the Family Life Office, Diocese of Rockford, at **815-965-5011**.

WORLD MARRIAGE DAY

Each year, Worldwide Marriage Encounter sponsors World Marriage Day on the second Sunday in February. This year's celebration takes place on February 11.

This event honors husband and wife as head of the family, the basic unit of society. It salutes the beauty of their faithfulness, sacrifice, and joy in daily, married life. Parishes are encouraged to join in this celebration and to proclaim the goodness of Sacrament of Matrimony. Information and liturgy suggestions can be obtained at the World Marriage Day website wmd.wwme.org or by calling Luis & Lisa Tamez at 815-577-2821.

RAINBOWS® TRAINING IN THE DIOCESE

Divorce, death, and other life-altering crises are devastating experiences and often put family members at risk for a multitude of short and long-term negative effects. However, research findings also indicate that with proper intervention, families adjust to the loss and recover well. The RAINBOWS® program continues to offer healing to families experiencing these losses.

RAINBOWS® is a program which provides support for children and adolescents who are grieving a loss from a life altering crisis such as death or divorce. RAINBOWS® enables those grieving to share their feelings in an accepting, supportive, confidential small group environment facilitated by trained, caring and compassionate adults. Program sites may send their volunteers to the following training sessions at the St. Charles Pastoral Center, in Romeoville. Pre-registration is required. The cost for new coordinator training is \$35.00. New facilitator training is \$55.00, and includes lunch. Please call **815-838-5334** to register.

NEW COORDINATOR TRAINING:

Saturday, January 13, 2007 - 9:00 a.m. - 12 noon

NEW FACILITATOR TRAINING:

Saturday, January 20, 2007 - 9:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

If your parish or school does not have a RAINBOWS® program, or any other means of support for children and families undergoing this painful transition, please encourage your pastor or principal to consider RAINBOWS®! Call Desirée Marciani (815-838-5334) for site start-up information.

*Please note the September 2007 training dates:
New Coordinator Training - Saturday, September 15, 2007
New Facilitator Training - Saturday, September 22, 2007*

RACHEL'S VINEYARD

This retreat is for reconciliation and healing for post-abortive men and women, sponsored by the Joliet Diocesan Life Office. It is scheduled for **March 23-25, 2007** at St. Charles Pastoral Center in Romeoville. Confidentiality and privacy will be strictly observed. To learn more about a **Rachel's Vineyard Retreat** or to register, contact Kay Corcoran **815-838-7171**. For more information and a list of retreats in other locations, see: www.rachelsvineyard.org or call the toll free national hotline 1-877-HOPE-4ME.

JOYFUL AGAIN!

JOYFUL AGAIN! is a two-day program for widows and widowers who want to resolve the grief they feel inside and begin to live again after the death of their spouse. The weekend employs a series of video presentations, followed by facilitated small group discussion and private reflection time. Through this process, individuals gain new insights and receive encouragement and support. Trained facilitators, who have been widowed themselves, help with the weekend and the discussions.

The next weekend at the St. Charles Pastoral Center in Romeoville will be on March 10-11. The \$75.00 cost includes all meals and materials. Persons attending may stay overnight at the pastoral center for an additional fee of \$35, or may go home and return again for the second day. To register please contact Charlotte Hrubes at **708-354-7211**.

RETRouvaille WEEKEND FOR TROUBLED MARRIAGES

Without attention and care, marriages wither. Couples slowly drift apart or are torn apart by terrible words and actions. **Retrouvaille** is helping couples put the pieces back together and rebuild loving relationships. **Retrouvaille**, pronounced "re tro vi", is a French word meaning "rediscovery."

Retrouvaille begins with a weekend experience, led by trained married couples and a priest. Through presentations, private reflection, and couple communication, couples who are seriously troubled and who may be contemplating divorce are invited to reflect on their marriage and what they need to do to save it. For more information, or to register, please call the number listed below, or check the web at www.retrouvaille.org. The next weekend in the Diocese of Joliet is scheduled for **April 13-15, 2007** at the St. Charles Pastoral Center, in Romeoville. For more information, or to register for this date, please call **708-802-1830**. A complete list of scheduled weekends for 2007 follows.

| | | |
|---------------|----------------|------------|
| January 19-21 | Jul 20-22 | Chicago |
| April 13-15 | October 12-14 | Romeoville |
| May 4-6 | Nov 30 - Dec 2 | Rockford |

CONFERENCE AT UNIVERSITY OF NOTRE DAME FOR DIVORCED AND SEPARATED - July 5

Catholic Divorce Ministry of the North American Conference of Separated and Divorced Catholics will hold its thirty-second annual conference, **Water in the Desert**. Individuals who have experienced separation, divorce, or loss of a relationship, and those who minister to them are welcomed to attend this conference. Pre-conference leadership training will begin on July 2nd and will offer two tracks: The ABC'S of Divorce Ministry with Cathy-Brewer Gorham, and Advanced Leadership Training with Carrie Hansen.

The conference, attended by people from all across North America, kicks off on Thursday evening July 5th and ends on Saturday, July 7th. Those who attend will be enriched by keynote speakers, workshop presentations, prayer services, and Eucharistic liturgy, and will have the opportunity to experience spiritual and emotional support for the healing process. This year's keynote speakers are Bill Dyer and Cathy-Brewer Gorham. The Center for Family Ministry offers partial scholarships for those who are seriously interested in becoming involved in divorce ministry in their parish. To inquire call Desirée Marciani at **815-838- 5334**.

UNDERSTANDING MY GRIEF

Individuals experiencing grief in their lives are invited to a special retreat at the Cenacle on January 26-27, 2007. Cecilia Kaiser, MS, LPC, an experienced bereavement counselor, will help participants explore grief and the feelings that accompany it. Please call **630-393-1231** for further information.

GROWING OLDER ISN'T FOR SISSIES: FINDING GOD'S PROMISES ON OUR JOURNEY

On Saturday, February 17, the Cenacle Retreat Center will offer a one-day program that includes reflection, sharing, and a humorous look at the journey of growing older. For more information, please call **630-393-1231**.

SUPPORT GROUPS

Has your parish created a welcoming and safe heart space for those who have lost a spouse or loved one due to death or divorce? Support groups are one way to create such a safe haven. Parishes needing help in starting such a group may call Desirée Marciani at the Center of Family Ministry.

SUPPORT FOR ANNULMENT PETITIONERS

Working on annulment papers alone without support can be emotionally painful, overwhelming, and frustrating. Papers often get shoved into a desk drawer and more often than not are never worked on again. In an effort to help petitioners complete the process, the Center for Family Ministry, in collaboration with the Joliet Diocesan Tribunal, is once again offering a Day of Support for Annulment Petitioners on **Saturday, February 17, 2007** from 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. at the St. Charles Pastoral Center.

This workshop is designed for divorced persons who have petitioned the Diocesan Marriage Tribunal to begin the annulment process, have submitted basic data for introduction of their case, but have not yet completed the Marriage Summary Questionnaire. Catholics and non-Catholics are welcome to attend, whether remarried or not.

The day will include a time of prayer, time for questions and input regarding annulments and the relational issues dealt with in the questionnaire. Participants will begin or continue filling out the questionnaire within a supportive environment. A team of pastoral ministers will be available for private consultation.

Continental breakfast, lunch, and materials are included in the \$20.00 fee. To register please call **815-838-5334**. For more information ask for Desirée Marciani.

WEDDING ANNIVERSARY MASS

August 19, 2007

It's not too soon to get the word out that the Twenty-ninth Annual Wedding Anniversary Mass is scheduled for the afternoon of Sunday, August 19, 2007. The celebrant will be Bishop J. Peter Sartain. Many couples celebrating their 50th anniversary look forward to this special Mass. More specific information will be forthcoming. Until then, please mark your calendars!

REMARRIAGE PREPARATION SEMINAR

This one-day workshop for couples who have been previously married will be offered on Saturday, March 10, 2007, 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., at Notre Dame Parish, Clarendon Hills. Presented by Barbara Jarvis Pauls, D.Min., LCPC, this program will focus on issues that are inherent in re-marriages: blending families, dealing with ex-spouses, issues related to past relationships, and parenting. Foundational areas of communication, conflict resolution, intimacy, theology of sacramental marriage and spirituality will be covered as well. The Prepare-MC or FOCCUS Inventory will be used as the assessment tool. Annulment petition information will be available for those interested in this process. An offering of \$20/couple is requested to cover lunch and materials. Please call **630-654-3365 ext 244** for further information and to pre-register.

NATURAL FAMILY PLANNING CLASSES

The Billings Ovulation Method are held at **St. Charles Borromeo Pastoral Center** on the first Tuesday of the month from 7:00 pm to 9:30 pm. Parishes may also arrange for classes on site. Contact **Karen Buchert, Diocesan Coordinator of Natural Family Planning** at kasbuchert@comcast.net or by phone 630-551-1712 for more information about this class or about natural family planning in the diocese.

Also, instructor Lupita Sorich teaches NFP classes teaching the Billings Ovulation Method on the fourth Thursday of each month from **6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at Provena St. Mary Hospital in Kankakee**. In addition, Spanish NFP classes are given by appointment. Class fee is \$35 per couple. For more information or to register, call Lupita Sorich at 815-304-5879.

Diocese of Joliet

The Center for Family Ministry

St. Charles Pastoral Center
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E-mail familyministry@dioceseofjoliet.org
Website dioceseofjoliet.org/familyministry

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Upcoming Events - Register Below

JANUARY

- 2 Natural Family Planning, Session I
- 6 FOCCUS Training, Downers Grove
- 12-14 Catholic Engaged Encounter
- 13 RAINBOWS Coordinator Training
- 20 RAINBOWS Facilitator Training
- 21 How to Get Married and Stay Engaged, Bloomingdale
- 26-27 Understanding My Grief, Warrenville

FEBRUARY

- 6 Natural Family Planning, Session II
- 9-11 Catholic Engaged Encounter
- 16-18 Worldwide Marriage Encounter
- 17 Support for Annulment Petitioners
- 17 Growing Older Isn't for Sissies, Warrenville

MARCH

- 2-3 Remarriage Seminar, Rockford
- 3 Marriage: It's Worth It!
- 6 Natural Family Planning, Session I
- 10 Remarriage Preparation, Clarendon Hills
- 10-11 Joyful Again! Retreat
- 23-25 Rachel's Vineyard
- 23-25 Catholic Engaged Encounter
- 24 Annual Conference for Divorced and Widowed

APRIL

- 3 Natural Family Planning, Session II
- 13-15 Worldwide Marriage Encounter
- 13-15 Retrouvaille Weekend
- 13-15 Catholic Engaged Encounter
- 17 Families and Faith
- 17-19 Ministry with Families 101, Rockford
- 24 Bestowing the Blessing, Clarendon Hills
- 28-29 Engaged Encounter, Spanish

MAY

- 1 Natural Family Planning, Session I
- 11 Remarriage Seminar, Rockford
- 18-20 Catholic Engaged Encounter

JUNE

- 5 Natural Family Planning, Session II
- 22-24 Worldwide Marriage Encounter

JULY

- 2-7 Catholic Divorce Ministry Conference, South Bend
- 21-22 Engaged Encounter, Spanish

AUGUST

- 19 Wedding Anniversary Mass

THE CENTER FOR FAMILY MINISTRY

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(815) 838-5334 • FAX (815) 834-4045

E-mail: familyministry@dioceseofjoliet.org • Website: dioceseofjoliet.org/familyministry

REGISTRATION FORM

We have included this generic registration form for your convenience. Please duplicate it if you wish to register for one of our programs.

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____ CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

PARISH _____ DAYTIMEPHONE _____

TITLE OF WORKSHOP _____

DATE OF WORKSHOP _____ FEE ENCLOSED _____

E-MAIL ADDRESS _____

Please return to CENTER FOR FAMILY MINISTRY
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