

FALL 2009

CENTER FOR FAMILY MINISTRY

DIOCESE OF JOLIET



Center For Family Ministry

815-838-5334

E-mail: familyministry@dioceseofjoliet.org
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Dr. James Healy, Director

Desirée Marciani, Associate Director

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October 3 Presentation

Fifty Ways to Strengthen Marriages at your Parish

The United States Bishops have called us to greater efforts at building up and strengthening marriages at the parish level.

To help respond to that directive, this **9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.** workshop on **October 3** will introduce participants to a wide variety of ways that marriages can be honored and strengthened in the local setting. Since every parish is unique, it is important to offer a range of strategies and ideas, so that the most appropriate options can be chosen from among them. Dr. Jim Healy, director of the Center for Family Ministry, will offer the workshop.

Dr. Healy will also present an overview of the United States Bishops' National Pastoral Initiative on Marriage, including the reasons why it is so necessary at this point in time to focus on supporting marriages.

The three hour session has proven to be an effective way of sharing and processing a great deal of information in a time effective way. Although no meals are served, there will be healthy snacks available throughout the time together.

The \$10 per person charge covers the cost of the refreshments and materials. Please register by Monday, September 28, by using the enclosed registration form or by calling the office at **815-838-5334**.

For pregnant couples and parents of infants and toddlers "Bringing Baby Home" Nov. 7 and 14

Social science research suggests that about two thirds of new parents have problems in the first three years of parenthood that are serious enough to cause a decrease in their overall happiness. Although having a baby is for most a joyful experience, the many changes required can take its toll on a couple's relationship.

To help remedy this situation, an innovative new program is being piloted this fall. It is called **Bringing Baby Home**. Developed by well-known relationship experts Drs. John and Julie Gottman, this program is for pregnant couples and parents of infants and toddlers. Adapted and augmented for Catholic settings, the purpose of the program is to prepare couples for life with their baby and discover how to be the best parenting team possible. In a relaxed and supportive environment with a trained facilitator, couples learn how to strengthen their own relationship and foster their baby's development. This program has been featured on Good Morning America because empirical research has proven its effectiveness in not only helping the new parents, but in fostering optimal development of the new baby!

The program is being taught by Dr. Dan O'Grady, a psychologist and certified Gottman Educator. He is a leader in the Joliet Diocese for Catholic marriage enrichment programs.

The program lasts two Saturdays, and runs from **8:30 am to 5:00 pm**, at the St. Charles Pastoral Center in Romeoville. Because this is a first time pilot program, the cost per couple is only \$95 and includes lunch, refreshments and all materials. This program normally costs \$400. Couples seeking more information about the program should contact Dr. O'Grady at **312-984-0417 x2** or Dr. Jim Healy at the Center for Family Ministry. **Please register by Friday, October 29.**

Series starts this fall

Active Parenting for Stepfamilies

A stepfamily is created when one or both individuals bring children from prior relationships into the marriage. The number of stepfamilies has increased dramatically in this generation. In the Catholic Church, couples may marry after the death of a spouse or after an annulment has been granted.

Parents and future parents of stepfamilies are encouraged to attend a 6-night program: Active Parenting for Stepfamilies, which is being held within the Diocese of Joliet for the first time. The facilitators are Laura and John Frank, who parent in a stepfamily and who are active parishioners at both St. Petronille in Glen Ellyn and St. Joseph in Downers Grove.

The program consists of six Monday evening sessions: **9/28, 10/12, 10/26, 11/9, 11/23, and 12/7, 2009**. They will begin at 7:00 pm and will be held in a small group setting in the couple's home in Downers Grove. The \$20 cost per couple simply covers the cost of materials. Any Catholic or interfaith couple who is married in the Catholic Church or who is preparing to marry in the Catholic Church is invited to attend. For more information or to register, please call the Franks at **630-541-8548**.

HELP FOR FAMILIES EXPERIENCING DIVORCE OR DEATH OF A LOVED ONE

There is no magic that soothes away the pain inflicted upon families due to the loss of a loved one or to divorce. However, there are helpful resources for the families who find themselves in this painful situation. To find out about support available throughout the diocese, please call Desiree Marciani (**815-838-5334**) at The Center for Family Ministry.

PEER SUPPORT GROUP FACILITATOR TRAINING

Successful peer support groups have skillful facilitators. Becoming a skillful facilitator is a process that takes time and practice. On **August 29**, The Center for Family Ministry is sponsoring a facilitator training for church-sponsored divorce, bereavement, and other hurting/healing support groups. Desirée Marciani, associate director of The Center for Family Ministry who works with the hurting/healing ministries, and her husband, Deacon Tom Marciani, who is a hospice chaplain, will lead this training at St. Charles Pastoral Center in Romeoville. Both Desiree and Tom have 14 years of divorce and bereavement ministry experience.

The training is for those who are new facilitators of self-help small group sharing sessions as well as those who wish to brush-up on their facilitating skills. Agenda items include the role of the facilitator, communication, listening skills, support group ground rules, dealing with challenging situations and practice. Check-in begins at 8:30 a.m. Training starts at 9:00 a.m. and concludes at 4:00 p.m. The \$20 fee covers continental breakfast, lunch, and a student manual. To register or for more information, please call **815-838-5334**.

TREE OF LIGHT INFANT MEMORIAL MASS Sunday – November 8, 2009

All families and individuals are welcome to attend this Mass at St. Charles Pastoral Center in remembrance of babies who have been lost through miscarriage, stillbirth, infant death, other pregnancy losses or early childhood death. At 3:00 p.m. a special outdoor tree-lighting ceremony for family members to commemorate these babies will precede the mass. Family members may wish to arrive at 2:30 to sign in and to gather in the chapel. Friends and all family members are invited. A reception with light refreshments will be served immediately following. Please call **815-838-5334** to indicate the number of those planning to attend. If you are not able to attend but would like your baby remembered, please call us.

ANNULMENT PROCESS DAY Saturday, November 14, 2009

Father Joseph Tapella, the Judicial Vicar of the Joliet Diocesan Tribunal, and Desirée Marciani, the associate director of The Center for Family Ministry, will conduct an annulment information seminar, on Saturday, November 14, 2009, from **9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.** at the St. Charles Pastoral Center in Romeoville. People interested in petitioning for annulment, those already in the process, and those who are just curious about the process are welcome to attend. The meaning of the word "annulment," church status, myths, misunderstandings, the sacrament of marriage, Joliet Diocesan annulment paperwork, and other concerns or questions will be addressed. Kindly pre-register by November 9. A \$25 fee includes continental breakfast, lunch, and handouts. Check-in begins at 8:30 a.m. For information and to register, please call The Center for Family Ministry at **815-838-5334**.

RAINBOWS® TRAINING

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, for new site start-up, or for training information.

NEW COORDINATOR TRNG: Sat, Sept. 12, 2009 - 9:00 a.m. - 12 noon
NEW FACILITATOR TRNG: Sat, Sept. 19, 2009 - 9:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

Please note the January, 2010 training dates:

New Coordinator Training - Saturday, January 16, 2010
New Facilitator Training - Saturday, January 23, 2010

RAINBOWS® Available to Parishes AT COST

If your parish or school does not have a RAINBOWS® program, or any other means of support for children and families undergoing a painful family transition, please encourage your pastor or principal to consider RAINBOWS®! For parishes within the Diocese of Joliet, RAINBOWS® is available at cost and scholarships are available. Call Desirée Marciani (**815-838-5334**) for site start-up information.

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 **November 14-15, 2009**. For more information, to register, or for other dates and locations, please contact Charlotte Hrubes at **708-354-7211** or check the web at www.joyfulagain.org

THE HEART OF CHRISTMAS AT THE CRIB

Parents and grandparents are invited to bring their children/grandchildren to learn more about that First Christmas. This program will be held at the National Shrine of St. Therese in Darien where families will gather around the life-size Fontanini Manger scene. This 1 ½ hour program is on Saturday, December 5th at 10:00 a.m. or Wednesday, December 9th 4:00 p.m. Cookies and hot chocolate are included in the \$20 per family fee. Call **630-969-4141** a week in advance to register.

Series on Relationships at St. Andrew's this FALL

St. Andrew's Parish in Romeoville will sponsor a four evening series this fall on "Loving Relationships in a Changing World." All sessions will be held at the Parish Hall located at 505 Kingston in Romeoville. The cost is \$10 per individual per session. If at all possible, please pre-register by calling Marian Peters at 815-886-4165 ex 301.

Thursday, October 15 7:00 PM

Making Happiness a Habit: An Evening on Marriage

Dr. Jim Healy, Director, Family Ministry, Diocese of Joliet.

Happiness in marriage comes, not so much from the "once in a lifetime" events, wonderful as they are, but by the little things we do over and over again. Backed both by our Catholic faith and by social science research, what are these "habits of the heart" that lead to joy and fulfillment?

Thursday, October 29 7:00 PM

Dating Smarts: Follow Your Heart Without Losing Your Mind

Elsie Radtke, Family Ministries, Archdiocese of Chicago

Whether single, single-again, or as parents of soon to be daters, you do not want to miss this one! Trends in courtship practices have changed. Learn what is different now from a generation ago. Discover a simple five-step process for building a healthy relationship. There is a script to help you avoid devastating heartbreak. Please join us.

Thursday, November 5 7:00 PM

The Best Way Out is Through: Surviving Divorce, Considering Annulment.

Desirée Marciani, Associate Director, Family Ministry, Diocese of Joliet

Divorce is a tragedy with physical, emotional, and spiritual effects, but Christ and His Church are there to support you and love you. Come hear your own reality described and listen to how the church can help.

Thursday, November 19 7:00 PM

Before You Say, "I Do" Again

Dr. Barbara Jarvis Pauls, Pastoral Associate, Notre Dame Parish

Thinking about getting remarried in the future? Already remarried and want to hear helpful information about what can help remarriages last forever? Come hear the real story about step-families, dealing with former spouses, and understanding the needs of the children.

WEDDING ANNIVERSARY MASS

The Thirty-first Annual Diocesan Wedding Anniversary Mass will be celebrated on **Sunday, September 27, 2009 at 2:00 p.m.** at the Cathedral of St. Raymond in Joliet. Couples celebrating anniversaries of 25 years, 50 years, and more than 50 years, are invited to attend the event. Couples will receive certificates and will be led through a blessing ceremony by Bishop Sartain during the Mass. Because of space limitations, there is not room for additional guests. However, if necessary, a caregiver/helper is very welcome to attend with the couple. Pre-registration is required by **September 4, 2009**. For more information, please call **815-838-5334**.

CATHOLIC ENGAGED ENCOUNTER in English and Spanish
English 630-375-7072 Spanish 815-834-4037

WORLDWIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER WEEKEND
www.wwme.org 630-577-0778

RETRouvILLE WEEKEND FOR TROUBLED MARRIAGES
www.retrouville.org 708-802-1830

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Check calendar insert for upcoming dates!

Offered twice this Fall

"How to Be Married and Stay Engaged"

Three types of martial intimacy are needed for marriages to flourish. Happily, they also are the basis for our Catholic Christian marriage vows. In down-to-earth and sometimes humorous ways, Dr. Jim Healy will offer a vision and strategies to live these vows more deeply and completely.

Two different versions of this presentation will be offered. On **Saturday, September 19**, Dr. Healy will speak at Holy Spirit Catholic Community from **9:00 a.m. to 12 noon**. The morning will be divided into three presentations, with breaks and refreshments in between. Those interested may register by calling **630-978-9872** or **630-416-0540**. A free will offering will be requested. On Wednesday evening, **November 18, at 7:00 PM**, a shorter version of the same material will be offered at St. Isaac Jogues Parish in Hinsdale. Please call the parish at **630-655-6668** to register.

"Blessing and Being Blessed By Your Children" **September 29 at St. Elizabeth Seton in Naperville**

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 in Scripture, and will show why it has such a spiritually and psychologically profound effect on our children.

Parents of primary and junior high children are invited to St. Elizabeth Seton for a 45 minute presentation of this topic at 7:00 p.m. on **Wednesday, September 29**. Please pre-register by calling **630-416-1992**.

A similar presentation will be offered on **Tues. Sept. 8 at 7 p.m.** at St James in Glen Ellyn for primary and junior high religious educators. Religious educators from outside the parish wishing to attend this presentation should call Deacon Matt Pidgeon at **630-469-7540**.

FOCCUS TRAINING

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 the St. Charles Pastoral Center in Romeoville on **Saturday, October 24, 2009 from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.** Certain changes have been made in the way FOCCUS is to be scored and administered, and participants will have the opportunity to become familiar with these changes.

Unless they already possess one, individuals or couples will need to purchase the FOCCUS Facilitator Manual for \$45.00. There will also be a \$10.00 fee for the day, which includes lunch. Pre-registration is required. Please call **815-838-5334** for more information or to register.

FOCCUS Changes

As has been reported in this newsletter over the last 18 months, FOCCUS, Inc is asking that all FOCCUS users move in the direction of online administration and scoring. A number of parishes have already made the transition, and all those trained as FOCCUS Facilitators in the future will be trained in this method. The Center for Family Ministry has materials that can be sent to any parish to help them with this transition, and is also happy to answer any questions.

On **Wednesday, November 4, at 7 p.m.**, a special meeting will be held at the Pastoral Center for all marriage prep coordinators or parish representatives who would like to review online administration and scoring and related changes. Please call the Center for Family Ministry at **815-838-5334** to pre-register.

DIOCESAN MINISTRY OF CONSOLATION TRAINING

Saturday, Oct. 10, & Saturday, Oct. 17 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Saturday, Oct. 24 9 a.m. to noon

This 2½-Saturday training is designed for those who have never attended a ministry of consolation (bereavement) workshop. Each participant will receive the 2006 edition of the Ministry of Consolation Participant Workbook from the National Catholic Ministry to the Bereaved, Inc. (NCMB). This newer resource has extensive information on grief, including multicultural information, and has an additional unit on healing and meditation. Other areas of focus will include communication skills, setting up the parish program (including the Order of Christian Funerals), caring for the minister, and facilitating support groups. Participants are required to attend all three sessions and will receive a certificate.

This program is co-sponsored by The Center for Family Ministry and The Office of Divine Worship/Catechumenate and will take place at St. Charles Pastoral Center in Romeoville. The training will be presented by Desirée Marciani, the associate director of The Center for Family Ministry and Sister Sharon Marie Stola, OSB, D.Min., the director of The Office of Divine Worship.

The \$75 fee includes the participant manual, handouts, continental breakfast and lunch on October 10 and October 17 and continental breakfast on October 24. Participants will receive a letter of confirmation with directions. Call for a brochure (815-838-5334) or check our website:

<http://www.dioceseofjoliet.org/familyministry/events.asp>

NATURAL FAMILY PLANNING CLASSES

The Joliet Diocesan Natural Family Planning Program teaches the Billings Ovulation Method (BOMA) of NFP. These two-session classes in English and Spanish are offered in the following locations for a fee of \$50 per couple. *Parishes may also arrange on-site classes.*

St. Charles Pastoral Center in Romeoville

Two-session classes in English are held the first and third Tuesday of each month, from 7 to 9 p.m. Please note: the November 2009 classes will take place at St. John the Baptist in Winfield on Tues, November 10th and November 24.

Contact Karen Buchert, Diocesan Coordinator of Natural Family Planning, at 630-551-1712 or kasbuchert@comcast.net.

Two-session classes in Spanish are held the second and fourth Sunday of each month, from 3 to 5 p.m. There will no be classes in Spanish in December. Contact diocesan instructor, Lupita Sorich at 815-932-9275 or 815-735-8439 (cell).

St John the Baptist in Winfield

Two-session classes in English are held September through May on the second and fourth Tuesdays of the month.

Contact Karen Buchert at 630-551-1712 or kasbuchert@comcast.net.

Provena St. Mary Hospital in Kankakee

Classes in English are held on the fourth Thursday of each month from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. The second session is arranged individually. In the Kankakee area, classes are also offered in Spanish by appointment.

Contact diocesan instructor Lupita Sorich, 815-932-9275 or 815-735-8439 (cell).

Independent NFP providers also offering instruction within the Joliet Diocese: Creighton FertilityCare at www.fertilitycare.org; Couple to Couple League (CCL) at <http://ccli.org>; NFPLI, Inc. at 888-485-6635.

Diocese of Joliet

The Center for Family Ministry

St. Charles Pastoral Center
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Upcoming Events – Register Below

AUGUST

- 4 Natural Family Planning, English, #1, Romeoville
- 18 Natural Family Planning, English, #2, Romeoville
- 29 Peer Support Group Facilitator Training

SEPTEMBER

- 1 Natural Family Planning, English, #1, Romeoville
- 8 Blessing & Being Blessed, Glen Ellyn
- 11-13 Catholic Engaged Encounter, English
- 11-13 Worldwide Marriage Encounter
- 12 Rainbows Coordinator Training
- 13 Natural Family Planning, Spanish, #1, Romeoville
- 15 Natural Family Planning, English, #2, Romeoville
- 19 How To Be Married & Stay Engaged, Naperville
- 19 Rainbows Facilitator Training
- 27 Natural Family Planning, Spanish, #2, Romeoville
- 27 Wedding Anniversary Mass, Joliet
- 28 Stepfamilies Program, Downers Grove
- 29 Blessing & Being Blessed, Naperville

OCTOBER

- 3 50 Ways to Strengthen Marriages
- 6 Natural Family Planning, English, #1, Romeoville
- 10 Ministry of Consolation Training, Session 1 of 3
- 11 Natural Family Planning, Spanish, #1, Romeoville
- 15 Making Happiness a Habit
- 16-18 Catholic Engaged Encounter, English
- 17 Ministry of Consolation Training, Session 2 of 3
- 20 Natural Family Planning, English, #2, Romeoville
- 23-25 Retrouvaille
- 23-25 Worldwide Marriage Encounter
- 24 Ministry of Consolation Training, Session 3 of 3
- 24 FOCCUS Training
- 25 Natural Family Planning, Spanish, #2, Romeoville
- 29 Dating Smarts

NOVEMBER

- 4 FOCCUS Changes
- 5 The Best Way Out is Through
- 6-8 Worldwide Marriage Encounter
- 7 Bringing Baby Home, Session 1 of 2
- 8 Tree of Light Memorial Mass
- 8 Natural Family Planning, Spanish, #1, Romeoville
- 10 Natural Family Planning, English, #1, Winfield
- 13-15 Catholic Engaged Encounter, English
- 14 Bringing Baby Home, Session 2 of 2
- 14 Annulment Process Day
- 14-15 Joyful Again!
- 18 How To Be Married & Stay Engaged, Hinsdale
- 19 Before You Say "I Do" Again
- 21-22 Catholic Engaged Encounter, Spanish
- 22 Natural Family Planning, Spanish, #2, Romeoville
- 24 Natural Family Planning, English, #2, Winfield

DECEMBER

- 1 Natural Family Planning, English, #1, Romeoville
- 4-6 Worldwide Marriage Encounter
- 5 The Heart of Christmas, Darien
- 9 The Heart of Christmas, Darien
- 11-13 Catholic Engaged Encounter, English
- 15 Natural Family Planning, English, #2, Romeoville

JANUARY, 2010

- 5 Natural Family Planning, English, #1, Romeoville
- 10 Natural Family Planning, Spanish, #1, Romeoville
- 16 Rainbows Coordinator Training
- 19 Natural Family Planning, English, #2, Romeoville
- 23 Rainbows Facilitator Training
- 24 Natural Family Planning, Spanish, #2, Romeoville

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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 _____ DAYTIME PHONE _____

TITLE OF WORKSHOP _____

DATE OF WORKSHOP _____ FEE ENCLOSED _____

E-MAIL ADDRESS _____