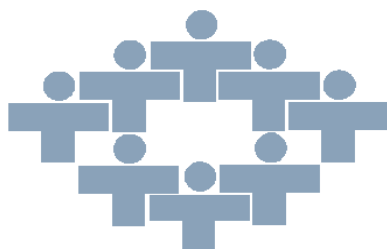


FALL 2011

CENTER FOR FAMILY MINISTRY

DIOCESE OF JOLIET



Center For Family Ministry

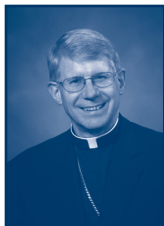
815-838-5334

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

Dr. James Healy, Director

Desirée Marciani M.S., Associate Director

Pat Spain, Secretary



New Bishop of Joliet

Bishop R. Daniel Conlon was installed as the fifth bishop of Joliet on July 14, 2011. We look forward to his leadership in family ministry as well as in all the other ministries of the Church of Joliet. Welcome, Bishop Conlon!

November 12

Upgrade Your Baptism Preparation Program

Although just about every parish in the diocese offers baptism preparation, there is a considerable range among programs in terms of length, coverage, and approach. Nearly every parish can add something to its baptismal prep program that would increase its impact.

Baptism preparation is one of the few times when we are able to reach a wide range of young adult Catholics whom we otherwise might not see for a while. Because of this, any effort we make at this time can have real benefit. Along with the baptism preparation program and the liturgical event itself, other outreaches and connections can take place in and around the time of infant baptism.

During this seminar, which takes place at the St. Charles Pastoral Center from **9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.**, Dr. Jim Healy will offer the rationale for increased attention to baptism preparation ministry, an overview of the most common baptism programs, and a variety of ideas for enriching your baptism program, whatever you are doing now. The \$10 per person cost covers all refreshments and materials. Please pre-register by November 7 by calling **815-838-5334**.

MINISTRY OF CONSOLATION TRAINING

October 8, October 15, and October 22

This 2½-Saturday training is designed for those who have never attended a ministry of consolation (bereavement) workshop. The first two sessions, (October 8th and 15th) begin at 9 a.m. and end at 4 p.m.; the last session begins (October 22nd) at 9 a.m. and ends at 12 noon. Check-in for all three sessions starts at 8:30 a.m..

Each participant receives a Ministry of Consolation Workbook from the National Catholic Ministry to the Bereaved (NCMB). The training will include attention to communication skills, setting up the parish program (including the Order of Christian Funerals), caring for the minister, facilitating support groups, healing and meditation, and multicultural issues in bereavement ministry. **Participants are required to attend all three sessions and will receive an NCMB certificate of completion. Kindly pre-register by September 27.**

This program takes place at the St. Charles Pastoral Center in Romeoville and 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 8 and October 15 and continental breakfast on October 22. For a brochure or to register, please call **815-838-5334** or go to our website: www.dioceseofjoliet.org/familyministry/events.asp

Marriage Event for Parents of Special Needs Kids on October 29



Parenting any child can constitute a challenge for a married couple. Add to that the issues related to raising a child with special needs, and you end up with an amplified type of situation, where both the joys and the challenges can get bigger.

Please come join with other couples who are raising special needs children for some time away, to hear some new ideas, to share experiences, maybe even laugh a bit, and to lay it all before God. We will meet from **10:00 am until 2:00 pm** on Saturday, **October 29** at the St. Charles Pastoral Center in Romeoville. Couples with caretaking needs that might make it difficult to attend are encouraged to call the office to brainstorm possible strategies. Even though the event is focused on marriage and couples are urged to come as a couple, married individuals are encouraged to attend alone if both people can't come, or can't stay for the entire time.

The facilitators will be Dr. Jim Healy and Dr. Madonna Wojtaszek-Healy, who have four children, two of whom have Aspergers Syndrome. Jim, a counseling psychologist, has been the director of the Center for Family Ministry since 1989. Madonna is an educator with a Ph.D. in Human Development. More importantly, they are imperfect but committed parents of special needs children.

This event is a follow-up to a previous retreat for all parents of special needs children, where the need for an event focused on marriage was expressed.

The \$10 per person attendance fee covers refreshments, lunch, and all materials. Please pre-register by Monday, October 24, by calling **815-838-5334** and let us know if you need to have the fee waived. **Come be affirmed, included and appreciated!**

SINGLE THROUGH LOSS Gathering on December 3

Single Through Loss (STL) will hold its fourth gathering event on Saturday, **December 3rd**, at **St. Raphael Parish** in Naperville. Check in for the program begins at 1:30, followed by lunch at 2:00 and the presentation by our guest speaker. Attendees will also attend mass together at 5:00. Please go to www.singlethroughloss.org for more details and to register.

The featured speaker will be Dr. James Healy, presenting "**Making Happiness a Habit**". Dr. Healy has been the director of the Center for Family Ministry since 1989. A well-known speaker and writer, he received his Ph.D. in Counseling Psychology from the University of Illinois in 1985.

An inter-parish committee of the Diocese of Joliet, STL members include support group leaders of **Divorce and Beyond**, the **Joyful Again!** Widowed Ministry, and other peer support groups in the diocese. STL was initiated and is endorsed by the Center for Family Ministry. Plans are to rotate meeting locations throughout the diocese.

STL's mission is to provide spiritual enrichment and networking opportunities for widowed or divorced Catholics who have passed through the initial stages of grief and are ready to begin a new chapter in their lives. STL meetings are open to individuals of all denominations who are respectful of faith-based values.

DIVORCE AND BEYOND Fall Sessions Start

Divorce and Beyond, a ten session self-help divorce support group, provides a caring, prayerful setting where members can process the experience of grief during and after the divorce procedure. A **Divorce and Beyond** group is a safe, confidential place where you can begin to resolve the feelings of confusion, anger, and loneliness that often accompany divorce.

Two parishes, Holy Trinity Parish in Westmont and St. Irene Parish in Warrenville, will be offering **Divorce and Beyond** this fall. **Holy Trinity** is having an informational meeting on Tuesday, **September 6th** followed by ten sessions (meeting once weekly) that start on Tuesday, September 13th and end on Tuesday, November 15th. **St. Irene** is offering an informational meeting on Saturday, **September 24**, immediately following 5 p.m. Mass, in the Activity Center (lower level). Their 10 week session will start in October (dates will be decided at the informational session). For more information about the sessions at Holy Trinity call Marie Hejnal at **630-515-1535** or email her at marieacisonhejnal@sbcglobal.net. For more information about the program at St. Irene's, call Beverly Murphy at **630-969-3743** or email her at Murphy807@aol.com.

Please call The Center for Family Ministry at **815-838-5334** for information about other divorce support groups.

JOYFUL AGAIN! A Widowed Ministry

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 **November 12 & 13, 2011**. 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

RACHEL'S VINEYARD

This retreat is for reconciliation and healing for post-abortive women and men, sponsored by the Joliet Diocesan Life Office. The fall weekend date is **September 9-11, 2011** at the 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 **1-866-99-4-GIVE**. For more information and a list of retreats in other locations, go to www.rachelsvineyard.org or call the toll free national hotline 1-877-HOPE-4ME.

TREE OF LIGHT INFANT MEMORIAL MASS Sunday – November 6, 2011 – 2 p.m.

All families and individuals are welcome to attend this Mass, celebrated by Bishop Imesch at the St. Charles Pastoral Center in Romeoville in remembrance of babies who have been lost through miscarriage, stillbirth, infant death, other pregnancy losses or early childhood death. At **2:00 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 1:30 p.m. to sign in and to gather in the chapel. **Please note that the time has changed from previous years.** 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 and would like your baby remembered, please call us.

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 TRAINING:

Saturday, September 10, 2011 - 9:00 a.m. - 12 noon

NEW FACILITATOR TRAINING:

Saturday, September 17, 2011 - 9:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

Please note the January, 2012 training dates:

New Coordinator Training - Saturday, January 14, 2012

New Facilitator Training - Saturday, January 21, 2012

Sunday, October 16 Bishop's Mass for Persons with Disabilities

All persons with disabilities, their families and friends are invited to be part of this annual celebration to recognize and affirm those who struggle every day with disabilities. The mass will take place at 12:00 Noon at Holy Family Parish in Shorewood (a fully accessible facility). A luncheon, prepared by the Knights of Columbus, will follow. For more information, or to make a luncheon reservation, please contact Mary Maloney at **815-838-6475**.

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, whether by death or 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.

CAREGIVERS DAY OF RESPITE

Caregivers are people who have found themselves in the role of caring for someone they love, usually a family member. Many caregivers have similar concerns, yet everyone is different. Some feel this task has been thrust upon them, but more often they have accepted the role because... "What else would I do, but care for this person I love?"

This day of renewal explores and discusses concerns of caregivers, and is designed to be restful, informative, and inspirational. Please bring a sack lunch. Offered twice this fall on **September 10** and **October 8** at **Mayslake Ministries in Lombard**, it runs from 9 am to 3pm. The co-facilitators are Jill Bates, D. Min, and Mary Beth Desmond. The \$25 fee includes light refreshments, handouts, and resources. Please call **630-268-9000** to register, or go to info@mayslakeministries.org.



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 one-day training program for FOCCUS at the St. Charles Pastoral Center in Romeoville on **Saturday, October 1, 2011** 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 \$50.00. There will also be a \$10.00 fee for the day, which includes lunch. Pre-registration is required by September 27. Please call **815-838-5334** for more information or to register.

Bestowing the Blessing on Your Children November 2 and 16

In biblical times, fathers bestowed a special blessing on their first-born sons. These days, we want 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 profound spiritual and psychological effect on our children.

The first presentation will be offered at the **Mom's Group at St. Anne's in Oswego** from **9:30 am to 10:45 am** on Wednesday, **November 2**. Those wishing to attend should call Gretchen at 630-636-6044. The second presentation is for **all parents**, and will be held at **St. Anthony's Parish in Frankfort** on Wednesday, **November 16**, from **7:00 pm to 8:30 pm**. Those who wish to attend this presentation are asked to contact Sophie Follenweider, Religious Education Director, at **815-469-6072**.

How to Be Married and Stay Engaged - October 23

All married couples are invited to a "Table for Two" event at **St. Margaret Mary Parish in Naperville** on **Sunday, October 23**. The evening, which begins at **5:30 p.m.**, includes a romantic catered dinner with wine, followed by Dr. Jim Healy's presentation. "In order for a marriage to flourish, three types of intimacy are needed: back to back, face to face, and shoulder to shoulder. Happily, these are also the basis of our three Catholic Christian marriage vows," says Dr. Healy. In down to earth and sometimes humorous terms, Dr. Healy will help us understand how to live these vows out more joyously and happily. The evening costs \$40, and couples must contact the parish by **Tuesday, October 18** at **630-369-0777** in order to register.

WEDDING ANNIVERSARY MASS

The Thirty-third Annual Diocesan Wedding Anniversary Mass will be celebrated on **Sunday, September 11, 2011** 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. A solemn blessing will be given by Bishop Conlon during the Mass. Couples will receive an anniversary certificate after the liturgy. Unfortunately, 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 **August 29, 2011**. For more information, please call **815-838-5334**.

Assistance Available To Start A Peer Support Group

Peer support groups are composed of people who are all dealing with the same challenging family issue. Normally, such groups are led by people who have themselves dealt with the same issue. The Center for Family Ministry offers an *individualized mentoring process* coupled with an annual training for those who have parish approval to facilitate such a support group. For more information, please contact Desiree Marciani by phone (815-838-5334) or email dmarciani@dioceseofjoliet.org.

CATHOLIC ENGAGED ENCOUNTER in Romeoville

English Dates for 2011: Sept 9-11, Oct 7-9, Nov 11-13, Dec 9-11
English Dates for 2012: Feb 10-12, Mar 16-18, Apr 13-15, May 18-20
Sept 7-9, Oct 12-14, Nov 16-18, Dec 7-9

For reservations, call **630-375-7072** or go to www.ccejoliet.org
Spanish Date for 2011: Nov 5-6 -- For reservations, call **815-834-4037**

WORLDWIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER WEEKEND

For reservations, call **630-577-0778** or go to www.wvme.org
Upcoming dates for 2011: Sept 9-11, Sept 16-18, Oct 14-16, Nov 4-6, Dec 2-4.

RETRouvaille WEEKEND FOR TROUBLED MARRIAGES

For reservations, call **708-802-1830** or go to www.retrouvaille.org
Upcoming dates for 2011:
Sept 30-Oct 2 in Romeoville & Dec 2-4 in Chicago

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 p.m. to 9 p.m. Contact **Karen Buchert, Diocesan Coordinator of Natural Family Planning**, at **630-551-1712** or kbuchert@dioceseofjoliet.org.

Two-session classes in **Spanish** are held the **second and fourth Sunday of each month**, from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. Contact 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 Wednesdays of the month. Contact **Karen Buchert** at **630-551-1712** or kbuchert@dioceseofjoliet.org.

Provena St. Mary Hospital in Kankakee

Classes in **English** are held on the **fourth Wednesday 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 instructor **Lupita Sorich**, **815-932-9275** or **815-735-8439 (cell)**.

St Joseph Church in Addison

Class #1 in **English** will be held on **September 22, 2011** at 7 p.m. Class #2 will be by appointment. Class #1 in **Spanish** will be held on **October 20, 2011** at 7 p.m. Class #2 will be by appointment. Future classes will be by appointment. Contact instructor **Edna Pasillas** at **630-279-6553 x 101** or email her at rauledna2@catholic.org.

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>; Natural Family Planning Life Institute, Inc. at **815-722-1660**; Chris & Michele Gonzales—Harrisburg Sympto-Thermal Method—contact them at NFPwithCandM@gmail.com or **847-749-8333**.

A Day for Married Couples November 12

All couples are invited to experience a one-day marriage retreat which explores marriage from a Catholic perspective. Based in sacramental theology and offering communication skills and concepts from the nationally known PREP program, the day will take place on **Saturday, November 12** from **10:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.** at **Mayslake Ministries in Lombard**. The presenter is Dr. Barbara Jarvis-Pauls, D.Min. Couples of all ages are invited to attend and discover new insights that can improve their marriage. Lunch and materials are provided. For more information or to register, call **630-268-9000**.

Strengthening Marriage at your Parish

"Let's get a speaker on marriage!" That is the first impulse when many parish leaders start talking about marriage enrichment at their parish. While a speaker can be a good idea and a worthy event, there are countless other ways, big and small, of strengthening marriages.

Please consider holding a **Strengthening Marriages at Your Parish** seminar. This workshop is for staff, key volunteers, and anybody else the parish has invited to review how marriages are supported and strengthened at the local level.

As part of the U.S. Bishops' National Initiative on Marriage, Dr. Jim Healy has presented this seminar in the Joliet Diocese for parishes, parish clusters, directors of adult faith formation, and for diocesan gatherings of parish personnel. Normally, it is a three hour experience, but adaptations can be made for particular settings. The focus is on presenting a variety of ideas and options, so a parish can consider what works most appropriately for them. Interested? Call Dr. Jim Healy at **815-838-5334**.

SAVE THE DATE! Gary Chapman on March 17

The Inter-Parish Marriage Enrichment Team, a consortium of seven DuPage County parishes, will be bringing in well-known author and speaker Gary Chapman on March 17 for their annual marriage event. The author of **The Five Love Languages** and many other books, Dr. Chapman is known and loved for his work in many parts of the world. The day will run from 8:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., and will be held at the St. Joan of Arc Parish gym in Lisle. Tickets will go on sale September 1 on the website www.imetevents.org.

ANNULMENT PROCESS INFORMATION DAY Saturday, November 12, 2011

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 12, 2011**, 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 annulment process will be explained and all questions will be welcomed. This day does not start the process but offers a friendly atmosphere to learn what annulment means and what is entailed in the process. During the day those in attendance will have a "hands-on" review of the Joliet diocesan annulment paperwork. **Kindly pre-register by November 7.** A \$25 fee includes continental breakfast, lunch, and a binder with handouts. Check-in begins at 8:30 a.m. For information and/or to register, please call The Center for Family Ministry at **815-838-5334**.

SAVE THE DATE! Divorced and Widowed Conference on March 24

Fr. Tony Taschetta, pastor of Mary Queen of Heaven Parish in Elmhurst, will be the guest speaker at the Divorced and Widowed Conference. Fr. Tony is well known for the warmth, power and humor of his presentations. The day, which takes place March 24 at the St. Charles Pastoral Center in Romeoville, begins at 9:30 a.m. and concludes with a 4 p.m. vigil Mass celebrated by Bishop Siegel. Look for more information in our next newsletter.

Diocese of Joliet

The Center for Family Ministry

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