



# Parish Family Life Coordinator Manual 2018

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FLC = Family Life Coordinator

OMF = Office of Marriage and Family Life

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## Introduction

Thank you for your service as your Parish's Family Life Coordinator! Archbishop Aymond and the staff of the Archdiocesan Office of Marriage and Family Life wish to thank you for your generous service to the people of your parish.

The Parish Family Life Coordinator is an essential ingredient of the Archdiocese's renewed commitment to marriage and family life ministry. Through your work, along with the efforts of your colleagues in parishes across the Archdiocese and in collaboration with the Archdiocesan Office of Marriage and Family Life, you will be helping to restore a culture of life and love where it matters most.

## Your Role

As the Parish Family Life Coordinator (FLC), you will work with your pastor and other parish ministry leaders to *promote* and *coordinate* Marriage and Family efforts in the parish. The goal of this role is to facilitate opportunities for families in your parish to experience God's love and mercy in the context of their relationships and their homes, and to provide credible witness to it. The work of the FLC is an extension of the pastor's ministry and operates with his direction and supervision. It will be very important, therefore, to establish and maintain strong lines of communication with your pastor, deacons, and other ministry leaders in your parish. It is worth mentioning here that the parish secretary is often a great source of help and information. They will often have answers to questions that nobody else in the parish will know.

The Office of Marriage and Family Life (OMF) is the office in the Archdiocese that carries out the Archbishop's ministry to the families of the Archdiocese, especially through the structure of the parishes. The OMF provides resources and support for marriage preparation and enrichment, help for hurting marriages and families and those who have experienced divorce or separation, resources for parenting, and other family enrichment resources. We want to help you and your parish be successful in bringing about a genuine renewal of the culture of the family. You can find our email address and phone number at the bottom of every page of this manual, and we also highly suggest being in contact with the other FLC's in the parishes near you for ideas and support.

## This Manual

This manual outlines the vision and the various aspects of ministry to marriages and families and provides an overview of the resources available to you from the OMF. (The manual is available in PDF format on our website; click the "Parish Family Life Coordinators" tab.) Not everything included here will be the best solution for your parish, however, nor is it meant to be a list of expectations for you. Each parish has its own unique culture, needs, and limitations. It will be your task, with the advice and guidance of your pastor and other ministry leaders in your parish, to develop a plan that responds to the unique needs and resources of your parish. The OMF is also here to help you strategize. None of us can do this on our own!

The manual is broken into the eight major areas of marriage and family ministry:

- Marriage Preparation
- Marriage/Family Enrichment
- Natural Family Planning and Infertility
- Separated or Divorced
- Annulments and Remarriage
- Bereavement
- Pornography Prevention and Response
- Singles

Even if your parish is not able to currently provide a strong approach to each, a good understanding of these areas will help you form a well-rounded, more effective approach to ministry, no matter how large or small. The OMF will be focusing on each of these areas in detail during the regular meetings.

One final note: the FLC is a *coordinator*; the most effective ministries are the ones that invite and sustain participation from a wide range of people. As the Parish Family Life *Coordinator*, consider who you might invite to take responsibility for one or another aspect of the ministry and select the resources that are most compatible with their strengths. Do not assume that you must run these programs yourself. Your task is to get everyone rowing in the same direction, not to row the boat all alone!

Thank you, again, for your generosity to this ministry. We at the Office of Marriage and Family Life believe that the establishment of FLC's at every parish is an exciting opportunity for the Church to make a renewed and lasting impact on the marriages and families in our Archdiocese. We look forward to working closely with you and learning from you as we labor in His vineyard together!

# Marriage Preparation

## Vision:

Marriage Preparation is a twofold endeavor: 1) to fulfill the Church's responsibility to administer the Sacraments prudently and faithfully and 2) to assist couples to both understand and embrace the Catholic vision of marriage so they may be properly disposed to receive the Sacrament. Put simply, the task is to help couples evaluate and strengthen their consent to marriage. We do this by providing the couples with a real and authentic vision of marriage and accompanying them on their journey to willingly embrace this calling.

FLC's should become familiar with the *Particular Law for Marriage Preparation* for the Archdiocese of New Orleans (particularly focusing on section 13.4). This document describes the requirements for Marriage Preparation in the Archdiocese. The FLC should work to ensure that their parish ministry helps couples seeking marriage to fruitfully fulfill the requirements of Archdiocesan Law. A concerted effort should be made to help avoid a sense of simply "jumping through hoops," both for the couples working through the process and for those who are responsible for guiding them. Parishes have a distinct advantage over Archdiocesan-based programs in this regard: a well-designed and executed parish marriage preparation process can provide a genuine spiritual home and valuable guidance for couples both before and after the wedding.

The new Archdiocesan particular law outlines how to approach the different marriage preparation program options that a pastor and a couple may consider. The policy instructs Pastors, Deacons, and marriage preparation ministers to *offer these programs in order of preference outlined in the policy*. (The policy is linked on the OMF website under the "Planning to Get Married?" tab.) The following is a brief description of those options:

## Resources

### **Pre-Marital Inventories**

Couples are required to complete a premarital inventory as part of their marriage preparation process. The inventories are not compatibility tests, but are tools whose purpose is to help couples discern the relative strengths and weaknesses of their relationship. It is best to incorporate the information learned through the inventory into the couple's preparation to avoid a one-size-fits-all approach. The Archdiocese uses both the FOCCUS and the Prepare and Enrich inventories. The Prepare and Enrich program is especially adaptable to suite the particular needs of couples. Inventories are most often completed online (but can also be complete at the parish) and can be scored by parish staff if they have an account or by the OMF.

## Mentor Couples

As the name suggests, a parish mentor couple program pairs engaged couples with married couples in the parish to walk with them through the marriage preparation process. Mentor couple programs go a long way towards establishing a personal connection between the engaged couple and the parish and helps the marriage preparation program to respond to the particular needs of the engaged couple. Without a personal relationship, it can be very difficult for an engaged couple to truly internalize the information they receive in their preparation program. A parish mentor couple can also provide both post-wedding support and a personal bridge to getting involved in parish life. The Office of Marriage and Family Life provides training and materials for two such programs in the Archdiocese: *In Home Marriage Preparation* and *Witness to Love*.

There are other mentor couple programs, but they should be prayerfully discerned (the OMF can help with this) and approved by your pastor.

## Engaged Encounter

Catholic Engaged Encounter is a community of married couples committed to providing weekend retreats for those preparing for the sacrament of marriage. Engaged Encounter retreats are held throughout the year and give couples an opportunity to reflect together on their relationship and teach communication techniques meant to foster a healthy married life. For more information about Catholic Engaged Encounter visit [nocee.org](http://nocee.org). Registration is available on the OMF website.

## Days for the Engaged

If neither a mentor couple or the Engaged Encounter weekend are practically possible for the couple, the Archdiocesan-sponsored “Days for the Engaged” (DFE) workshops are offered. Couples attend two, day-long Saturday workshops: Part A covers life skills such as communication, conflict resolution, finances, time management, etc., and Part B covers the Sacramentality of marriage, sexuality, and Natural Family Planning. Both Part A and Part B must be completed for a certificate of completion to be given. Parishes may also elect to send couples to the Part B seminar as a supplement to their parish-based mentor preparation. Supplementing with the Part B workshop would be especially helpful for parishes that may find it difficult to recruit people qualified to present the more technical aspects of the Church’s teachings on marriage. It would allow mentor couples to process the Part B material with the engaged couple once they complete it rather than having to be the only source of this information. Registration for the Days for the Engaged is accessed online through the OMF website.

The OMF is constantly on the lookout for enthusiastic and knowledgeable presenters for the Days for the Engaged program. If you happen to spot a potentially good candidate in your parish, please let us know!

## CatholicMarriagePrep.com

Finally, for couples who cannot attend any of the above marriage preparation programs, typically

because of long-distance situations such as military deployments, off-shore assignments, or other circumstances, a high-quality online marriage preparation program is available at CatholicMarriagePrep.com. This allows couples to complete marriage preparation from a distance over the course of a few weeks with the help of a “mentor couple” who communicates with them via e-mail.

## **Special Situations**

For couples who are entering a Sacramental marriage after a civil marriage (convalidations) or have been cohabiting for five years or more, the **Special Marriage** program, a one-day course, is offered (registration available on the OMF website), **though a mentor couple in combination with the Prepare and Enrich premarital inventory would provide a much more thorough and personalized experience.**

Couples who are re-marrying and have children from a previous marriage can attend a **Remarriage** course offered by the OMF, though, again, a mentor couple with some experience in this regard would be preferred.

## Marriage/Family Enrichment

### Vision:

The key to strengthening a parish is to strengthen families. The key to strengthening families is to *strengthen marriages* since marriage is the source of the family and of each member's identity. It is in our families that we first learn who we are, what we are worth, who God is, and what it means to love, what is worthy of our efforts and what is illusory. Unfortunately, many only come to understand this reality through the experience of a brokenness in the family and the path towards healing and wholeness, while certainly possible, is difficult indeed. The good news here is that the key to strengthening marriages has always been at the heart of the Catholic faith, and in recent years has been beautifully rediscovered and rearticulated: we must cultivate what St. John Paul II called "conjugal spirituality," meaning the couple's unity in the spiritual life, their *real* unity in Christ. This unified experience of God's powerful love and mercy strengthens the marriage more than anything else can, bringing about the changes we've been praying and working for in families and in parishes. *God working in families is both the goal we are trying to achieve through our ministry and the way by which we will achieve it!*

### **Toward Holiness within the Family**

**Individual:** Spouses and parents often struggle to believe that deep holiness is possible for them since God has called them to a life that constantly "drags them down to earth." They need help and support for understanding that their spouse, children, and job are, if responded to with generosity and discernment, are not obstacles to holiness. Simple, practical formation for how to regularly place ourselves in God's presence, especially at home, and at work is necessary. Books like *Mothers' Rule of Life, Momnipotent*, one of Fr. Michael Gaitley's books, or simple resources for Lectio Divina (praying with Scripture) can be very helpful, especially if combined with a small support group. But the most important thing is to place the call to the personal pursuit of holiness at the center of all of our efforts.

**Couple (Conjugal Spirituality):** Couples usually have a deep desire to experience unity with one another on their spiritual journey, though many find that desire difficult to articulate. Most of us likely feel as though genuine holiness as a couple is practically impossible. Simply praying out loud together as a couple is one of the most powerfully fruitful and unitive experiences a couple can have, but very few couples simply pray together because the level of intimacy and vulnerability required seems overwhelming, even for a couple who has been married for many years. The *Couple Prayer Series* (detailed below) is, by far, the best parish resource we have found for overcoming this obstacle. But simply providing couples opportunities for guided couple prayer during a retreat or other couples' activity is extremely fruitful. Couples often need the simple concrete experience of prayer (rather than lots of talk *about* prayer) to realize that the effort to "break the ice" is worth it. Also see *Domestic Church* (detailed below) for both formation and support groups to help couples with this.

**Family:** It becomes clearer every day that whether or not children come to understand who God is and how He works depends mainly on their experience at home. Faith becomes truly internalized depending on whether or not a child witnesses Mom and Dad (especially Dad!) sincerely practicing their faith and making concrete decisions for themselves and for their family based on their relationship with a real God. This depends heavily on both individual and conjugal spirituality. Involving the children in regular family prayer is foundational to the process of handing on the faith. Though simple and not too difficult to initiate, families often need ideas and witnesses for how to best handle praying together at each stage of family life. Concrete, *tested* ideas for the liturgical seasons are often fruitful. Giving families a chance to pray together during family events is crucial in the same way that providing couples opportunities to get a taste of what it feels like to actually pray together is crucial. Without providing this actual experience of praying together, it can be difficult to know how to begin.

Suggestions should be kept simple and best practices usually suggest mixing traditional prayers with each family member being allowed to offer spontaneous prayers. Connections to liturgical seasons, inclusion of Scripture, and use of sacramental and devotions should all be utilized in an age appropriate way. Resources and ideas are plentiful. See the Family Prayer section below and Domestic Church (detailed below) for both formation and support groups.

**Service to the Community:** As we mature as individuals, couples, and families, we naturally are led outward to allow the gifts we have received to benefit others in our community. The Holy Spirit gives “charisms” to us as individuals, couples, and families, which are unique gifts that are meant to be shared. Through our charisms, God allows us to be fruitful sources of grace to those in our parish, schools, workplaces, and neighborhoods. Through prayerful discernment, each family is able to discover where exactly the gifts that they have received would be most fruitfully offered.

It is important to help our families find balance and a right sense of proportion. Often we find ourselves either neglecting spiritual growth while throwing ourselves into service to our community, which can lead to frenzied busyness and burnout or breakdown. On the other hand, we may neglect involvement in the life of the parish and only focus on our own spiritual journey, which leads to isolation and often brings about conflict and division even within our own families despite our efforts.

It is important for us to constantly teach (at every level) that fruitful service and involvement in the community is the *result* of the spiritual growth we are meant to experience within ourselves and at home, rather than the other way around. Our parishes will then be renewed from the inside out and become a place where other families will naturally have models and support for taking steps for their own journeys at home and places to plug in to offer the gifts that God is giving them.

## Resources:

### One-time Events

**Supper and Substance:** A once- or twice-a-year couples' night that features a nice meal, well-decorated environment, and a good speaker. This is basically a date night with a faith-based speaker. It is an excellent first step for any family life efforts since it requires very little commitment, and the focus is not *completely* on faith formation. One step at a time!

Babysitting will double your numbers (at least!) and this will help many more young couples to attend. Talks should be testimony-based, and should ideally point to the next program you are soon offering for couples in your parish. Jason Angelette with Faith and Marriage at Willwoods is also an excellent resource for planning your next Supper and Substance (504-830-3716, [jangelette@willwoods.org](mailto:jangelette@willwoods.org)).

**Speakers Bureau:** A list of suggested local speakers is included in the Appendix with their contact information for a variety of marriage and family events (including Supper and Substance). Contact them well in advance since most of them are in high demand (because they are amazing!).

**Golden Anniversary Celebration:** The OMF hosts an Archdiocesan-wide Golden Anniversary celebration each year in June. Information is sent to parishes asking for a list of names of couples celebrating 50 years or more of marriage. Those couples are invited to attend the event at St. Philip Neri Church, and during the service (liturgy of the word), their names will be called, they will receive a certificate, and they will take a picture with the Archbishop. Many parishes also do their own 25<sup>th</sup> and 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebrations, and the OMF can supply certificates for those, as well. The 2018 Archdiocesan celebration will be Sunday, June 10.

### Retreats

**Willwoods Faith and Marriage:** See [FaithandMarriage.org](http://FaithandMarriage.org) for dates and details. Usually, these are two-day couples' retreats held multiple times a year on the Southshore, the Northshore, and Bay St. Louis, MS. They provide excellent local speakers and fruitful experiences of prayer, dialogue, and play.

**Domestic Church:** Weekend retreats (starting Thursday night, ending midday Sunday) held throughout the year across South Louisiana (usually two or more in our area) for Sacramentally married couples. Materials are taken from *Domestic Church*, a lay movement that started in Poland with the help of St. John Paul II. The focus is conjugal spirituality, quality time with your spouse, and formation for sustainable spiritual growth at home. It can be a stand-alone retreat, or it can serve as an introduction to ongoing *Domestic Church* formation (more on this in "programs" below). There are also eight-day family retreats offered usually during the summer. See [domesticchurchfamilies.com](http://domesticchurchfamilies.com) for more details and retreat dates.

**Marriage Encounter:** A long-standing institution that provides weekends for couples and focus on communication techniques, testimonies, and dialogue in the context of a prayerful retreat. Currently, the closest are held in Baton Rouge. See [wwme.org](http://wwme.org).

## Programs

**Couple Prayer Series:** Six-week series that helps couples overcome the obstacles to openly praying together on a daily basis. This might be the easiest and most fruitful way to help couples get a taste for conjugal spirituality or begin to really grow in it. You will need a presenting couple (mixture of live presentation and video) and a support couple, but all the videos and documents are given in a pack of DVD's, so it is cheap and simple to offer. Each participating couple is given seven envelopes to take home each week with excellent prayer guides for each day. This is a perfect next step after a Supper and Substance or a retreat. Those who participate will usually report deep and unexpected growth in intimacy and faith, and they are often open to further involvement and participation in parish life. See [CouplePrayer.com](http://CouplePrayer.com).

**United in Love, United in Christ:** Six-week series written and produced by Jason Angelette in the Faith and Marriage Office at Willwoods that provides both formation in the Catholic understanding of marriage taken from the Theology of the Body as well as formation for the spiritual life of married couples. It focuses on topics such as prayer, the Sacraments, and forgiveness, and features testimonies from both local and nationally respected couples. See [FaithandMarriage.org](http://FaithandMarriage.org).

**Domestic Church:** *Domestic Church* started in Poland with the help of St. John Paul II to provide formation for Sacramentally married couples to grow in holiness *together* with their spouses and for this to provide the context for Christian growth in their families. It takes the rich spiritual tradition of the Church and directs it specifically to the married vocation for real, sustainable growth. Couples begin, as mentioned above, with a couples' retreat, and then meet once a month in a group of 4-7 couples with a priest to process how the journey is going at home, pray together, and go over new formation materials. See [domesticchurchfamilies.com](http://domesticchurchfamilies.com) or call David Dawson at the OMF for more information.

**The Choice Wine:** 9-part series written and produced by Steve Bollman and *Paradisus Dei*, who also produced the *That Man is You* program. It provides what it calls the "seven steps to a superabundant marriage," which are extremely insightful and well-studied. *Paradisus Dei* is known for providing some of the best catechesis for the lay vocation, and they pair video presentations with small group discussions. See [thechoicewine.org](http://thechoicewine.org) for more information.

**Beloved:** 12-part series produced by Lighthouse Catholic Media and the Augustine Institute for both married couples and engaged couples. It provides catechesis on the nature of marriage according to Catholic teaching, and uses well-produced videos paired with reflection and discussion guides for small groups. See [lighthousecatholicmedia.org/beloved](http://lighthousecatholicmedia.org/beloved).

**USCCB ForYourMarriage.Org:** The U.S. Bishops' site for marriage and family resources. It includes excellent articles and videos on a large variety of topics as well as really good programming suggestions and other resources.

## Struggling Marriages

**Retrouvaille:** A weekend retreat for couples in conflicted marriages. Focuses on very intentional communication, especially with difficult topics, in order to overcome deep-rooted sources of conflict and division. Call the OMF for registration information.

**Catholic Counseling Service:** Archdiocesan service that offers faith-based counseling at a reduced rate for married couples, families, or individuals. For appointments or questions, call 504-861-6245 or email [ccs@arch-no.org](mailto:ccs@arch-no.org).

Online and Phone Resources:

**Marriage Disciples** provides accompaniment and formation by a qualified couple somewhere in the country either over the phone or through Skype. [MarriageDisciples.org](http://MarriageDisciples.org).

**The Pastoral Solutions Institute** provides tele-counseling for couples and individuals by nationally respected Catholic counselors who are also trained in pastoral theology and Catholic teaching on marriage: [CatholicCounselors.com](http://CatholicCounselors.com)

## Family and Parenting

**Family Prayer:** Providing strategies, support, and resources for praying together as a family, in all its different stages, is central to any effort at enriching families. This is where each member most learns who God is, what prayer is, and how God responds to prayer. We are not aware of any parish programming specifically focused on family prayer, though many include materials as part of a larger family approach (Domestic Church, for example). The OMF is also constantly providing family prayer materials in the Clarion, on the Archdiocesan website, and in the Family Day materials (more on that below). Any effort to provide an event or events with families should include an experience of family prayer or at least some materials to promote family prayer, and the OMF can help with this.

**Family Day:** The fourth Sunday of September each year is our Archdiocesan Family Day. The OMF provides a theme and a packet with helpful materials for the Sunday liturgy, bulletin inserts/handouts, and other suggestions for the parish celebration. Many parishes host picnics, speakers, and other events, and the OMF can help with planning and connect you with parishes in your area who may already have something in place. Family Day 2017 will be Sunday, September 23.

**Mother/Daughter, Father/Son Event:** The OMF offers yearly events for mothers to attend with their daughters aged 10-12, and for fathers to attend with their sons aged 11-14.

Presentations are given by a doctor and a woman/man trained to speak on the beauty of God's plan for our bodies as men and women. Reproduction and sexual development are the focus, and it provides parents with a comfortable, faith-based foundation in which to explain the act of intercourse and its role in marriage and conception to their child. These events are usually held in the Spring, and registration is done through the OMF. A few parishes host these events for their own parishioners, and this is certainly ideal for the sake of numbers, scheduling, and community building—the OMF can help strategize how to provide this in your parish.

**Isaiah 43 Parenting and Mentoring Program:** Isaiah 43 is a program offered by Catholic Charities of New Orleans which provides workshops for parishes that include resources, support, and networking for parents and grandparents. They address issues such as communication, discipline, encouragement, and forgiveness. Check out [ccano.org/isaiah-43](http://ccano.org/isaiah-43), or contact [kgibson@ccano.org](mailto:kgibson@ccano.org).

**Single Parents:** Those who are raising children on their own are usually overtaxed and very much in need of support from their community. However, their ability to show up to parish events or parent participation opportunities is often limited by their hectic schedules. It is important, then, to consider what can be done in your parish to make parish ministries as accessible as possible. The formation of groups that can offer connections with other single parents for spiritual support and cooperation would be much appreciated – especially if they are able to maintain their focus on spiritual and community support and are careful to avoid becoming a “dating community”. Efforts toward providing childcare for adult formation opportunities can be very helpful, as can providing financial advising resources (such as Dave Ramsey or *Faith Finances*) and school scholarship information that can help parents navigate the financial burden of raising and educating children alone. These efforts would benefit not only single parents but all families and can help build a sense of belonging.

The Isaiah 43 program (above) addresses issues faced by single parents and other varied family structures (grandparents raising grandchildren, etc.).

## Baptism Follow-up

It is often the case that young families only participate in Church functions (including Sunday Mass) if they are required for Sacrament preparation. This is obviously a poor image of the Church and of God's grace, but we must be ready to welcome and offer opportunities to experience Christ when they do come to the Church, even if they do not really expect it.

If parents (or a parent) has their child baptized in the Church, that means there is something, even at a minimum, that they value in the Church for their child and their family. Many may not be able to put their finger on exactly what it is, but with help, they may be led to a richer experience of the Church's gifts and a deeper receptivity to Christ. The benefit of their coming for baptism is that we have a record of who they are and their contact information. Structures should be set up to reach out to parents after the baptism to provide them with the opportunities the parish offers, especially the ones for families. They should definitely be added to any existing parish email contact list, and anytime there is a new family program being offered, they should be notified. If

it is possible, personal phone calls are hard to ignore and are much more fruitful than emails for building bridges and making people feel like they are not just a number or a “potential customer”.

## Natural Family Planning, Infertility, and Miscarriage

### Vision:

Our Archdiocese is blessed to have a very large and varied amount of resources for Natural Family Planning (NFP) and some of the best women's fertility and healthcare resources in the country. Our Catholic Charities also has a very well-organized and established adoption services department.

Engaged couples are now required as a part of their marriage preparation to receive a substantial introduction to NFP given by a certified instructor. This presentation includes medical information, a relational analysis of NFP usage versus contraception, and a moral and theological discussion about the gift of fertility and its vital connection to marriage, responsible parenthood, and prayerful discernment. These presentations necessarily include personal testimony and opportunities for follow-up discussions and further instruction.

For NFP instruction, presenters on the topic of NFP, and other resources, contact the OMF or one of the institutions listed below.

### Resources:

#### NFP Methods

**Northwest Sympto-thermal:** Uses a combination of basal body temperature and observation of physical changes to chart progress through the woman's fertility cycle. This information can be used effectively to either achieve or postpone a pregnancy. Classes are conducted in a group setting and consist of four, three-hour evenings spread over the course of two months. Available on both the Southshore and the Northshore. Registration is through the OMF office.

**Creighton:** The Creighton Fertility Care system uses observation of physical symptoms to both chart progress through the woman's fertility cycle and provide a wealth of information regarding the woman's health to a certified practitioner. This information can also be used by medical personnel trained in NaPro Technology, a cutting-edge healthcare system that works to maintain or restore a woman's natural reproductive system (local resources for this below). Classes are one-on-one with a practitioner and consist of an introductory presentation followed by monthly follow-up meetings until autonomy is achieved. Registration is through the Hope Fertility Care Center on the Southshore ([womansnewlife.com/fertility/hope-fertility-care-center](http://womansnewlife.com/fertility/hope-fertility-care-center)).

**Family of the Americas:** A method that is both simple and affordable, yet still very effective—it uses observation of physical symptoms to chart progress through the woman's fertility cycle. This method is said to be ideal for a woman discontinuing the use of artificial contraception. It is now available through the Hope Fertility Care Center, and one-on-one classes

consist of an introduction and monthly follow-up meetings until autonomy is achieved.

**Couple to Couple League:** There are two instructor couples in the area for this symptothermal method, and they are both on the Southshore. Classes are three, pre-scheduled evening sessions done specifically couple-to-couple (imagine that!). Registration is online at [ccli.org](http://ccli.org).

## **Infertility/Medical**

**Hope Fertility Care Center** on the Southshore provides both Creighton Method NFP instruction and support as well as women's health and reproductive care. The HopeFertility Care Center also now has a general practitioner who is a medical consultant for NaPro technology and Creighton Fertility Care.

**Taking Back the Terms** uses testimonial as well as scientific talks and presentations on women's reproductive healthcare to inform and empower women with the tools and knowledge to understand how each woman's body is unique; with the goal of allowing her to make informed, healthy decisions with a doctor who understands her unique body as well. For more information, or to arrange a presentation check out their Facebook page or contact the OMF.

## **Adoption**

**Adoption Services of Catholic Charities Archdiocese of New Orleans** is a full-service, non-profit, child-placing agency that offers domestic and international adoption. They provide services to both birthparents and families considering adoption. For birthparents, they provide legal, medical, and financial assistance through every stage; and for the adoptive parents, they provide application help, placement services, home studies, and post-adoption support. Information can be found at [ccano.org/adoption](http://ccano.org/adoption).

## **Miscarriage**

For a very large amount of helpful information, practical resources, and support, Catholic Miscarriage Support offers a website, <http://www.catholicmiscarriagesupport.com/>, that provides answers and helpful insights for those suffering the pain and confusion that come with experiencing a miscarriage. The website is incredibly comprehensive, and we suggest exploring it in detail as excellent preparation for providing the support and help necessary for the people in your parish who need it (about 20% of pregnancies end in miscarriage).

## Separated / Divorced

### Vision:

Since marriage affects us at the deepest levels of our identity and self-worth, the loss of marriage causes destruction at the deepest levels, and any effort at healing must take that into account as well as the effect on the children, friends, and other family members involved. Often, in an effort to uphold the dignity and indissolubility of marriage, those in the Church may hesitate to put sufficient energy into outreach to those who have experienced divorce. However, there are excellent approaches to providing fruitful healing while still recognizing the beauty and gift of Catholic marriage. We must, as the Body of Christ, reach out to those who are suffering so deeply and are often so isolated.

### Resources:

#### **Diocesan Programing**

**Beginning Experience:** A weekend for those who have lost a spouse either through divorce or death. Provides peer support, healing, strategies for coping, and the option for long-term group support. These weekends are currently held in Rosaryville, near Pontchatoula, twice a year. The first retreat for 2018 has been scheduled for October 19-21.

#### **Parish Programming**

Keys to parish programming are as follows: well-facilitated group support, addressing the difficult dynamics of the divorce experience (parenting, court battles, loneliness, dating, etc.), working knowledge of the annulment process, foundation in Catholic teaching on marriage, and connection to counseling resources.

**The Catholic's Divorce Survival Guide** is a 12-week program published by Ascension Press and written by Rose Sweet. It's a nationally respected resource for the Catholic approach to divorce ministry. It leans heavily on the testimonies of many who share detailed stories of their struggles and how they found peace and healing, and they directly and faithfully address all of the particular issues listed in the paragraph above. The program and many great resources can be found at [catholicsdivorce.com](http://catholicsdivorce.com), and Rose Sweet is very accessible for all the support you might need. The OMF is also able to provide support for planning and implementation for this program. Other well-respected parish programs are *Journey of Hope* from [lisaduffy.com/parish-program](http://lisaduffy.com/parish-program), and *Recovering from Divorce* by DivorcedCatholic.com, both of which are 13-week programs that utilize video testimonies and group support.

## Annulment / Remarriage

### Vision:

A very large number of couples in every parish find themselves in “irregular” situations concerning Church law with respect to marriage, very often having been married outside the Church. Couples in irregular marriages are not considered in full communion with the Church, meaning they are unable to receive the Sacraments, though they may (and should be invited to) participate in parish activity to the fullest extent possible. Many end up leaving the Church because of a sense that they no longer belong, and it can be very difficult in the current culture to both communicate a welcoming invitation to deeper participation and to lead them to recognizing the need to correct their situation. Pastors, with the assistance of the parish FLC’s, have a duty to ensure that individuals both have access to and are accompanied through the available processes and personal conversion necessary for this.

Regarding the “annulment” process, an important element to keep in mind is that the laws of the Church are rooted primarily in what marriage *is*, its dignity, and its goodness. A “Declaration of Nullity” or an “annulment” is a judgement of the competent Church authority that a marriage was not validly contracted. Typically, these judgements are made within the context of the Diocesan Tribunal. There are different processes that the Tribunal employs to handle the different types of cases, and it is important to be familiar with the in’s and out’s of the different processes.

### Resources:

**Procurator/Advocates:** Procurator-Advocates work directly with persons seeking annulments (called “petitioners”) to be sure they understand the process, to help them to put together and advance their case, and to be sure the necessary paperwork and evidence is properly filed with the Tribunal in a timely fashion. The process of filing for a decree of nullity can be an intense and often emotional journey, but it can and should be experienced as a healing process that is best done with the accompaniment of a knowledgeable and compassionate companion.

As the FLC, you will want to know who the Procurator-Advocates are in your parish and work with them to build a welcoming environment that invites participation in the process and handles cases as efficiently and competently as possible. In some cases, parishes may find that there is a need for Procurator-Advocates; FLC’s can be instrumental in helping pastors to identify good candidates to take on this role and to ensure that they receive the proper training. For more information about Procurator-Advocate training, contact the Diaconate Office at 504-861-6267.

**Annulment Writing Workshops:** The OMF works with an experienced team who provides a series of workshops for groups of individuals who are ready to file for a declaration of nullity. The workshop consists of either five Tuesday evenings or three Saturday mornings, and the participants are given guidance as to how to best write their narratives, choose their witnesses, and gather necessary paperwork. These are held four times a year in different areas of the Archdiocese. There are a few parishes whose leadership provides these workshops for their own parishioners, as well. Contact the OMF for dates and locations.

# Pornography

## Vision

In recent decades, pornography has become one of the strongest factors shaping the culture and the minds and hearts of *most* people, *not only the young*. The overwhelming availability of the internet has caused an epidemic of pornography usage and addiction, and the type of pornography that has become “normal” is much more graphic than anything ever available before. The average age of first exposure is now between 8 and 11, and close to 90% of people have been exposed to pornography multiple times before they reach their twenties. The pornography industry is one of the biggest industries in the world, and it is fueled by human trafficking.

The good news is that the Church is and always has been prepared to be a light in the darkness and the most important and powerful source of healing for what sin destroys. Romans 5:20 says, “where sin increased, grace abounded all the more,” so we have reason to hope that God is not outdone just because we feel overwhelmed and helpless to stop such a powerful force. The Church provides the Sacraments to give us life and union with Christ in the midst of even the most addictive or destructive sinfulness, and we are given the ability and the responsibility to accompany those who are affected.

## **Awareness and Prevention:**

One of the major factors (if not *the* major factor) at work in the current pornography epidemic is the lack of understanding on the part of parents as to the danger of pornography and/or how easy it is to access. Or, they themselves have been affected by pornography and struggle to know how to address it with their children.

The early age of exposure is usually not because children are seeking it out, but because pornography companies put a lot of resources into getting images and videos on the screens of young people through image or video searches, popular video or social media sites, and even pop-ups channeled through popular children’s sites. The younger the viewer, the more powerful the effect, and when the content is free, seemingly infinite, and access feels anonymous, it is expecting too much for children to be able to make good decisions when constantly faced with access to what they are naturally supposed to be curious about. Most adults struggle with this constant temptation, as well: 79% of men and 76% of women aged 18–30 report viewing pornography at least once a month, while 63% of men and 21% of women aged 18–30 view pornography at least several times a week.

To take the difficult steps to try to prevent pornography exposure, a person must first understand why it is necessary. Otherwise, the tediousness of filtering and monitoring internet usage and the constant fight to limit it will wear down any weakness of conviction. This, combined with ever-changing technology, makes it very difficult for parents to do this well. So, through our schools and our parish communities, we must make efforts to provide both education as well as models of prevention in the ways we offer internet access. Regular parent meetings and presentations on

how to discuss it and how to deal with it when it arises, regular homilies, and updates to school technology policies must be undertaken to communicate the reality of the dangers of pornography usage.

## Resources:

### **Device Filters/Accountability Software:**

Though absolutely necessary, device filters are not enough to provide adequate help for someone who is suffering with a serious attachment to pornography. Even the best device filters can be bypassed, and the producers of pornography are constantly working to make it easier to access their materials despite filters. However, a filter with **accountability software** can provide a substantial additional roadblock for someone who is making an effort to fight pornography addiction, and it can keep them safe from most incidental exposures. The added accountability piece allows their decisions to be brought into the light, which diffuses much of the power of what drives the temptation: anonymity, and isolation.

The following are the best device filters/accountability software packages we have seen. They cost \$5-\$10 a month, on average and can be used on any computer, tablet, or smartphone.

**Covenant Eyes** [www.covenanteyes.com](http://www.covenanteyes.com) (Christian/Catholic)

**Net Nanny** [www.netnanny.com](http://www.netnanny.com) (secular).

### **Help for those Affected:**

Studies have shown that pornography usage has a deep and lasting effect on brain function, specifically the capacity for interpersonal relationships, moral decision making, and impulse control. And, it usually does not take much exposure to create a chemical addiction as strong as heavy drugs, which often cannot be overcome without intervention and outside help.

**Online programs and resources** are the easiest to access, they are anonymous, and the expert resources provided are plentiful and continue to be refreshed. Although in-person help is often necessary, online resources can be an excellent first step, especially for those who are too ashamed or scared to involve others directly.

**ReclaimSexualHealth.com** is a Catholic program that uses the brain science of addiction to break down the addiction process over a six-month period while providing a coach who is available 24/7 and Catholic formation on sexuality, the human person, and healing and restoration through Christ. The cost is either \$49 a month, or \$245 for six months. Clergy can experience it for free in order to better know what they are suggesting. It also provides a free program for spouses as well as one for parents of those who are addicted. There are built-in ways for both clergy and counselors involved in the recovery process to be involved in the tracking and accountability.

**Fortify (FightTheNewDrug.com)** is a program directed toward teens and young adults, but it is also effective for adults. Teens are able to access the program at no cost, while adults are asked to pay \$39, which helps make the teen version free. It takes about three months to complete and includes educational videos and a progress tracker. Fight the New Drug was created by Mormons, but the materials are for anyone, and they are very modern-looking and appealing to youth.

**IntegrityRestored.com, ThePornEffect.com**, and other sites provide excellent educational resources, community forums, witness testimonies, and access to experts (psychologists, pastors, and others) for personal help.

**Face to face help** is usually necessary to truly uproot a pornography attachment and can be received through groups, well-chosen accountability partners (and accountability software), and professionals.

**My House Men's Group** is currently active here in the Archdiocese and provides weekly meetings using a 12-step structure to provide both accountability and realistic goal-setting for attainable and measurable progress. [myhouse@arch-no.org](mailto:myhouse@arch-no.org), 504-430-3060

**An accountability partner** (or multiple partners) must be someone who is trusted by the individual and who has access (either through regular self-reporting or through accountability software) to their behavior regarding pornography (and any sexual “acting out”). A spouse can potentially be a good accountability partner, but there are many factors that could make this problematic (see next section). Prayerful discernment is critical for making a prudent choice. A conversation with a trusted priest in the context of confession may help in choosing a suitable accountability partner.

**Getting professional help** (i.e., counseling) is suggested as a necessary component to recovery by most top resources. This can be accessed through personal appointments, over the phone, or even online. Our Catholic Counseling Service can be a great resource for this. Phone: 504-861-6245 Web: <http://ccs.arch-no.org> Email: [ccs@arch-no.org](mailto:ccs@arch-no.org)

## Help for Spouses/Families:

We have only recently come to a better understanding of how pornography usage affects spouses and families. Wives of men who use pornography experience deep feelings of inadequacy, rejection, depression, and helplessness, and recently it has been discovered that many show Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) symptoms. The need for specific help has become much more clear. The children of those affected by pornography usage require special attention, as well. There is a heightened possibility of exposure from a parent's (or older sibling's) pornography use or acting out. There is also a stronger possibility of being sexually abused by the family member, or at the very least, not receiving the full presence, attention, or love they need from the family member suffering with a pornography attachment. Counseling may be necessary, but in any case, recovery efforts should work to include the family members who are very much affected by this

behavior.

**Pearl Ladies' Group** is an OMF sponsored group that provides weekly support and formation for women whose husbands are affected by pornography usage and/or sexual “acting out.”  
[pearlministry@arch-no.org](mailto:pearlministry@arch-no.org), 504-343-3359

**Catholic Counseling Service** seeks to provide quality counseling and psychotherapy services to individuals, couples, and families in need of assistance and to offer these professional services through a unique perspective that upholds the richness and integrity of the Catholic faith. Phone: 504-861-6245 Web: <http://ccs.arch-no.org> Email: [ccs@arch-no.org](mailto:ccs@arch-no.org)

## Safe Haven Sunday

Starting in 2018, all parishes have been asked to take advantage of Safe Haven Sunday, a weekend assigned each year by the Archbishop (1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Lent in 2018) when parishes will provide a focus on pornography at all Masses and provide their parishioners with materials for discussion and practical follow-up at home. In 2018, parishes purchased and distributed a book called *Equipped: Smart Catholic Parenting in a Sexualized Culture*, which provides parents with insights and strategies for how to talk about sexuality and pornography with their children and how to take steps to provide protection in their home. It also provided a “text-to-opt-in” feature through which parents could get access to a series of short instructional videos for very practical steps for how to manage internet connected devices, apps, and what to do if your child has already been exposed. Parishes and schools now have the option to schedule a speaker to present to their parents on the nature of internet pornography and strategies for best practices at no cost.

This will be an annual initiative that utilizes our partnership with Covenant Eyes, and materials for next year will cover providing help for those who have been affected by pornography. Parishes receive an implementation guide for each Safe Haven Sunday, which includes everything they need to make that day as fruitful as possible.

## **End of Life and Bereavement**

### Vision:

Dealing with a dying loved one can be an extremely difficult situation to navigate since it involves the overwhelming emotions and interior struggles of multiple people who are deeply connected to one another as well as the complex logistics and decisions that have to be made. It can be almost impossible to keep our bearings and respond in a balanced and objective way to the needs of the people we love. The Church in her wisdom is able to provide guidance not found elsewhere, which keeps in the forefront the inviolable dignity of each person involved as well as our ultimate purpose, our unity with God. There are many very specific resources available to families for every stage of serious illness and preparation for death.

Many parishes have a bereavement committee who provide hospitality and/or meals for the families who have lost a loved one, and some have a structured way to help them through the grieving process. FLC's should be ready to help to bring about greater parish participation and companionship during such a vital time in the life of a family whether this means working to start a program if one does not exist or work closely with those already involved. Only Christ can provide what a family truly needs when faced with the death of a loved one, and the Church is the way He established for us to get full access to Him!

### Resources:

#### **End of Life**

**Respect Life Office:** Our Archdiocesan Respect Life Office has many helpful resources for how to navigate decisions regarding palliative care, life support decisions, living wills, and other difficult end of life issues. Debbie Shinskie, the Respect Life Director, can be reached at [respectlife@arch-no.org](mailto:respectlife@arch-no.org).

**Hospital Chaplains:** Our Hospital Chaplains Coordinator, Deacon Jeff Tully, is also an excellent resource if someone is in need of help with navigating the complex decisions and processes involved in dealing with in-patient care for serious illness. He can be contacted at [jtully@arch-no.org](mailto:jtully@arch-no.org).

#### **Archdiocesan Services and Care Centers:**

- **Notre Dame Hospice**—provides excellent, professional, and faithful hospice care, in-home or in-patient, as well as guidance for timing and handling logistics and even long-term bereavement support after the death of a loved one. [notredamehospice-no.org](http://notredamehospice-no.org)

- [Chateau de Notre Dame, St. Anthony Gardens](#)—high quality, faith-based assistant living facilities in New Orleans and on the Northshore that are able to provide levels of care based on need. [cdnd.org](#), [stanthonygardens.org](#).
- [Christopher Homes](#)—affordable (subsidized) senior living facilities in 20 different locations around the Archdiocese; for elderly who are 62 years or older or for those who are disabled and in need of accessible units. [christopherhomesinc.org](#)

## **Bereavement**

There are a few published programs that either provide guidance for a parish team or provide materials to guide those who are grieving. These should be carefully discerned with a special eye to faithfulness to Catholic teaching and the reality of family relationships. Our website, [fla.arch-no.org](#), has a link to a list of parishes in the Archdiocese with active bereavement ministries including descriptions and contact information (look under the “Struggling?” tab).

**Naim and Bridge to Naim** are parish-based groups available in different areas of the Archdiocese that provide help specifically for widows and widowers both during the grieving process immediately after the death of a spouse (*Bridge to Naim*) and for social and spiritual connection once a month for long-term support (*Naim*).

## Singles

### Vision:

Often, those who are single request a parish structure to provide for their specific needs since they no longer fit with the youth or young adult groups, and are not married. Programming usually consists of social, formation, and service elements, and different age groups may need to be considered. Single parents should also be given special consideration since they are usually very limited in their ability to participate with any regularity in community activities and often need support specific to parenting issues (see page 9 for more on this).

It is important to keep in mind that those in the single state still have a vocation to holiness and love. This vocation will look different from that of a married person, and it is uniquely able to provide a kind of self-giving service that married people cannot. For this reason, any singles group should be directed to develop their formation, spiritual lives, and even connections to one another in such a way that they are pointed outward in service to their community. A single person is often able to give the time and energy to individuals in need (elderly, disabled, poor, lonely) that a married person is committed to giving to their family. Without the service of those who are not currently committed to a spouse and children, many are left without the love and attention they need. But, with good formation, good connection to the parish community, and an active prayer life, single people can provide a deep and lasting relationship that will lead many others to God and to a fuller life.

### Strategies:

#### **Organization:**

The work needed to provide structure, continued communication, and creativity for a singles initiative should not be underestimated. The person best suited for this should be single (ideally), passionate/driven, organized, a good communicator, and able to navigate through the inevitable obstacles. If one of these characteristics is missing, it is likely to fizzle out within a short period of time. The effort to find this person may seem daunting, but they are often the type of person who will call the church office to ask if they have a ministry for singles—if they have the drive to call the church and the desire to participate, be sure to follow up with them to see if they have the other characteristics needed! You might also look at those who are already participating in parish events or involved in service to the community. It doesn't matter if they are single because they have never been married or if it is because they have lost a spouse to divorce or death; however, if they have been divorced, they need to have gone through the necessary healing. Creating a calendar should include a balance of spiritual, social, and service opportunities, though many events should probably include two or all three of these.

#### **Spiritual:**

Regular experiences of prayer should not be neglected in favor of intellectual formation opportunities (speakers, book studies, etc.). You may find that people are more willing to show

up for the social events, so you may want to schedule a social event that starts with a period of Adoration or something similar (Christ in the City, an initiative of the Young Adult Office has had much success with this). Or, you could begin with a well-known speaker, offer a period of prayer, and then move into a social setting.

### **Social:**

Again, combining this with a spiritual or service activity may be helpful. Organizing something regularly will also help with numbers—if people know that something is being offered the same day every month or every other week, they are more likely to remember to attend. It would probably be helpful to have a sort of “social contract” that everyone in the group agrees to that provides expectations of social behavior, especially as regards to temperance with alcohol and appropriate interaction with the opposite sex. Perceived acceptance by the Church of drunkenness or inappropriate behavior is scandalous and damaging to the faith. Expectations should be laid out from the get go and referred to regularly.

### **Service:**

The majority of the energy should be put into service opportunities as these will be more fruitful and fulfilling than is usually expected and will provide the best context for fruitful spiritual and social growth. These should also be scheduled to occur regularly (maybe once a week) and should provide repeated opportunities to work with particular people or a particular location in order to build long-term connections rather than one-and-done experiences. Connecting with people who need connections should be given precedence over activities involving just labor. Opportunities to reflect upon, discuss, and pray through these experiences with the group should be included, as well.

### **Struggles of Being Single:**

Being a single adult can be extremely difficult. We are made for intimacy and for belonging to others in a familial way, and our faith prepares us to give ourselves to others in the power of the Holy Spirit, typically in a Sacrament of Service (Matrimony or Holy Orders). A single person in the Church often struggles to know where they belong and what their life is supposed to be about. This suffering should not be underestimated, and guidance for how to navigate this struggle faithfully is needed.

Participation with a group of others in similar circumstances is obviously a huge help, and this can even be done online. Some good articles, resources, and connections to others may be found at [SingleCatholics.com](http://SingleCatholics.com).

## Contact Info for Other Connected Diocesan Ministries

### Office of Youth and Young Adult

Address: 2241 Mendez St., New Orleans  
70122

Phone: 504-836-0551

Email: [cyo@arch-no.org](mailto:cyo@arch-no.org)

Web: <http://www.cyo-no.org>

### Office of Catholic Schools

Address: 7887 Walmsley Ave., New Orleans  
70125

Phone: 504-866-7916

Email: [mbordelon@arch-no.org](mailto:mbordelon@arch-no.org)

Web: <http://nolacatholicschools.org>

### Catholic Counseling Service

Address: 2814 S. Carrollton Ave., New  
Orleans 70118

Phone: 504-861-6245

Email: [ccs@arch-no.org](mailto:ccs@arch-no.org)

Web: <http://ccs.arch-no.org>

### Catholic Charities

Address: 1000 Howard Ave., Suite 200,  
New Orleans 70113

Phone: 504-523-3755

Email: [ccano@ccano.org](mailto:ccano@ccano.org)

Web: <http://www.ccano.org>

### Office of Black Catholic Ministries

Address: 7887 Walmsley Ave., New Orleans  
70125

Phone: 504-861-6207

Email: [bcatholics@archdiocese-no.org](mailto:bcatholics@archdiocese-no.org)

Web: <http://www.obcm-no.org>

### Hispanic Apostolate

Address: 2525 Maine Ave., Metairie 70003  
Phone: 504-467-2550

Email: [hispanicapostolate@archdiocese-no.org](mailto:hispanicapostolate@archdiocese-no.org)

Web: <http://www.apostoladohispano.org>

### Vietnamese Catholics

Address: 5069 Willowbrook Dr., New  
Orleans 70189

Phone: 504-254-5660

Fax: 504-254-9250

### Lay Ministry Formation

Address: 2901 S. Carrollton Ave., New  
Orleans 70118

Phone: 504-866-7426, x741

Email: [sveters@nds.edu](mailto:sveters@nds.edu)

Web: <http://nolacatholic.org>

### LIGHT (Same Sex Attraction, Gender)

Address: 7887 Walmsley Ave., New Orleans  
70125

Phone: 504-729-8533

Email: [light@arch-no.org](mailto:light@arch-no.org)

Web: <http://nolacatholic.com/light>

### Tribunal

Address: 7887 Walmsley Ave., New Orleans  
70125

Phone: 504-861-6291

Email: [tribunal@archdiocese-no.org](mailto:tribunal@archdiocese-no.org)

Web: <http://tribunal.arch-no.org/>

### Office of Religious Education

Address: 7887 Walmsley Avenue, New  
Orleans 70125

Phone: 504-861-6270

Email: [amydiaz@arch-no.org](mailto:amydiaz@arch-no.org)

Web: <http://www.nolaore.org>

### Respect Life Office

Address: 1000 Howard Ave., Suite 927,  
New Orleans 70113

Phone: 504-286-1119

Phone 2: 504-400-4824

Email: [respectlife@arch-no.org](mailto:respectlife@arch-no.org)

Web: <http://respectlife.arch-no.org/>

## 2018 Archdiocesan Marriage Preparation Program Dates

Registration for Days for the Engaged, Special Marriage and Engaged Encounter is online. Go to the nolacatholic.org and click on Ministries > Office of Marriage and Family Life > Planning to Get Married.

### DAYS FOR THE ENGAGED \$50.00 per couple, per session

<b>January</b>	Part A	13	SR	<b>July</b>	Part A	14	SPN
	Part B	27	SFX		Part B	28	NS
<b>February</b>	Part A	3	NS	<b>Aug.</b>	Part A	18	IJP
	Part B	24	IJP		Part B	25	SR
<b>March</b>	Part A	3	SPN	<b>Sept.</b>	Part A	8	NS
	Part B	17	SR		Part B	22	IJP
<b>April</b>	Part A	14	IJP	<b>Oct.</b>	Part A	6	SPN
	Part B	28	NS		Part B	27	SR
<b>May</b>	Part A	5	IJP	<b>Nov.</b>	Part A	10	IJP
	Part B	12	SR		Part B	17	NS
<b>June</b>	Part A	2	NS	<b>Dec.</b>	Part A	1	SFX
	Part B	23	SFX		Part B	15	SFX

IJP = Infant Jesus of Prague, Westbank  
 NS = Northshore Pastoral Center, Covington  
 SFX = St. Francis Xavier, Metairie  
 SR = St. Rita, Harahan  
 SPN = St. Philip Neri, Metairie

Special Marriage Preparation  
\$50.00

<b>January</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>SCB</b>
<b>April</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>NS</b>
<b>June</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>SCB</b>
<b>September</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>NS</b>
<b>November</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>SCB</b>

SCB = St. Charles Borromeo, Destrehan  
NS = Northshore Pastoral Center, Covington

Engaged Encounter Weekend  
\$325.00

<b>January</b>	<b>19-21</b>
<b>February</b>	<b>16-18</b>
<b>March</b>	<b>16-18</b>
<b>April</b>	<b>27-29</b>
<b>June</b>	<b>22-24</b>
<b>August</b>	<b>3-5</b>
<b>September</b>	<b>14-16</b>
<b>October</b>	<b>12-14</b>
<b>November</b>	<b>9-11</b>

Carmelite Spirituality Center 62292 Fish  
Hatchery Road, Lacombe

## Speakers List

Aly and Willie Leonard	<a href="mailto:alyalleluia@yahoo.com">alyalleluia@yahoo.com</a>
Arthur and Shirley Dupre	<a href="mailto:shirleyldupre@yahoo.com">shirleyldupre@yahoo.com</a>
Brian Butler	<a href="mailto:brian@dumboxministries.com">brian@dumboxministries.com</a>
Chris and Christine Baglow	<a href="mailto:cbaglow@nds.edu">cbaglow@nds.edu</a>
Chris O'Neill	<a href="mailto:coneill@arch-no.org">coneill@arch-no.org</a>
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Colin and Amy MacIver	<a href="mailto:csmaciver@yahoo.com">csmaciver@yahoo.com</a>
Dcn. John and Linda Pippenger	<a href="mailto:JPIPP@aol.com">JPIPP@aol.com</a>
Dcn. Terry and Dottie Manieri	<a href="mailto:dottieandterry@yahoo.com">dottieandterry@yahoo.com</a>
Debbie Shinskie	<a href="mailto:respectlife@arch-no.org">respectlife@arch-no.org</a>
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Kevin and Casey Sprehe	<a href="mailto:caseysprehe@gmail.com">caseysprehe@gmail.com</a>
Laine and Stephen Dessauer	<a href="mailto:laine.bodin@gmail.com">laine.bodin@gmail.com</a>
Lloyd and Jan Tate	<a href="mailto:jantate72@bellsouth.net">jantate72@bellsouth.net</a>
Molly and Cory Howat	<a href="mailto:chowat@arch-no.org">chowat@arch-no.org</a>
Pat and Susie Veters	<a href="mailto:sveters@nds.edu">sveters@nds.edu</a>
Paul and Allison Jung	<a href="mailto:thirstysol@bellsouth.net">thirstysol@bellsouth.net</a>
Paul and Kathy Metzler	<a href="mailto:tales4kat@aol.com">tales4kat@aol.com</a>
Rafael and Penny Flores	<a href="mailto:ore@stpeterparish.com">ore@stpeterparish.com</a>
Ryan and Danielle Enk	<a href="mailto:dmdup@aol.com">dmdup@aol.com</a>
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