

Diocesan Marriage Preparation Programs



~Engaged Encounter

Engaged Encounter is two unique days away giving couples planning marriage an opportunity to look honestly and intensively at their prospective lives together as husband and wife. Through a series of presentations by married couples, each couple is able to reflect, examine and deepen their relationship with each other and hopefully with God. Following each presentation, a series of writing and sharing exercises challenge couples to explore many aspects of their relationship in a more focused and effective way. Some of the areas and topics covered in these presentations and Reflection/Dialogue time include:

- *Openness in Communication*
- *No longer "Me" but "We"*
- *Signs of a Closed Relationship*
- *Decision-Making in Marriage*
- *Sexual Intimacy & Family Life*
- *Wedding, the Beginning of Our Sacrament*
- *Forgiveness in Marriage*

The Engaged Encounter begins at 8:00 p.m. on a Friday evening at Bishop Lane Retreat Center, Rockford, IL. It concludes by 9:00 pm Saturday evening. The cost, which includes Program, Materials, Meals and overnight accommodations for each person at the Retreat Center, is only \$160 for a couple marrying in the Rockford Diocese, \$180 if from another Diocese. \$50 of cost is required as a non-refundable but transferable deposit at the time of registration. The balance is due on arrival. There is a \$15 late registration fee for registrations received less than four weeks prior to the requested date.

~Remarriage Seminar

The **Remarriage Seminar** is specifically designed for couples in or entering a Remarriage where one or both have had a previous marriage. During this Seminar you will be able to not only reflect on and discuss pertinent issues, concerns and realities of any couple getting married, but also those unique to couples who have been married before.

Presentations on these significant topics are given by a Team of Married Couples where one or both have had a previous marriage. Each of these talks are followed by couple and/or group interaction:

- *Elements & Barriers to a Successful Remarriage*
- *Expectations/Myths/Attitudes/Feelings about Finances, Sexuality and Plan of Life*
- *Communication and Conflict Resolution*
- *Building Smart Stepfamilies*
- *Trusting Together in God*

The Remarriage Seminar begins at 8:00 p.m. on Friday evening at Bishop Lane Retreat Center, Rockford, IL. It concludes Saturday evening. The cost is \$160 per couple if marrying in the Rockford Diocese, \$180 if from another Diocese. This cost includes Seminar, Materials, Meals and overnight accommodations. \$50 of cost is required as a non-refundable but transferable deposit at the time of registration. The balance is due upon arrival.

~Preparation for Marriage Convalidation

Sacramental Preparation for Marriage Convalidation is a Day of Retreat to prepare couples married civilly to now receive the Sacrament of Matrimony. Couples are making anew "**consent**" in the sight of the Catholic Community to become a Sacrament **of** the Church. Presentations include:

- *The Sacrament of Matrimony: A sign of God's Love and Grace, FOREVER.*
- *Strengthening Couple Communication*
- *Married Intimacy: Faithful and Holy*
- *Married Spirituality & Prayer*
- *Family Life Issues*

The Retreat begins at 8:15 a.m. and concludes at 4:00 p.m. The Cost is \$60 and includes program, materials, Continental Breakfast & Lunch for two, and Certificate of Participation.

2009-Dates

~Engaged Encounters

All Engaged Encounters are held at Bishop Lane Retreat Center, Rockford, IL

Jan 2-3 Feb 27-28
 Mar 13-14
 Apr 3-4 Apr 24-25
 May 8-9
 June 12-13 July 17-18
 Aug 21-22 Oct 23-24
 Nov 13-14

~Remarriage Seminars

All Remarriage Seminars will be held at Bishop Lane Retreat Center, Rockford, IL

Feb 27-28 Apr 24-25
 July 24-25 Oct 23-24

~Marriage Convalidation

Jan 31 May 16
 Sept 12



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 Bishop Lane Retreat Center
 Rockford, IL

Registration Form

Engaged Encounter *(Include \$50 deposit)*

Date Requested (First Choice) _____

Date Requested (2nd Choice) _____

Remarriage Seminar *(Include \$50 deposit)*

Date Requested _____

Convalidation Preparation *(include \$60)*

Date Requested _____

Please PRINT clearly

Woman's Name _____

Address _____

City/State _____ Zip _____

Phone (H) _____ (w) _____

Age ____ Religious Preference _____

List Any Previous Marital History _____

Man's Name _____

Address _____

City/State _____ Zip _____

Phone (H) _____ (w) _____

Age ____ Religious Preference _____

List Any Previous Marital History _____

Anticipated Wedding Date _____

Priest _____ Parish _____

Method of Payment

Check MasterCard Visa

Card # _____ Exp. Date _____

____ Deposit Only ____ Full Amount ____ Out/Diocese

Signature _____

____ E-mail confirmation letter to _____

Make checks payable to Office of Family Life and mail completed form to:

Office of Family Life, 7708 E. McGregor Rd.
 Rockford, IL 61102 (815) 965-5011

Office Use Only		
Date _____	Fee Paid \$ _____	Ck# _____
Card _____	Conf Sent _____	

DIOCESAN 2009 MARRIAGE PREPARATION

Engaged Encounter
 Remarriage Seminar
 Marriage Convalidation



*"May God
 make Holy
 the
 Moments
 and the
 Years of
 Your Love"*



Sponsored by the
Family Life Office
 Diocese of Rockford
www.familylife.dpsrfd.org