

The Marriage Course

St. Joseph's Parish 2015

I am confident this resource will help married couples grow in natural virtue. The Marriage Course gives refined teaching about natural virtues which are proper to the spousal relationship, and, universally applicable to Catholic and non-Catholic marriages alike. The essence of the course lies in the principles explained in the talks, and the related exercises that each couple does together, privately. These talks and accompanying exercises are given in a group setting. There are, however, no public exercises nor public sharing of any kind. The developers of the program strongly advise a group setting, for the discipline of moderating the time. That said, if a couple must miss one or two of the sessions, it may be possible to borrow a DVD to make up a class. More than that, they should wait for the next course.

Who is it for? The best of marriages, plum full of all virtues, have no need for this course. All other couples, married two years or more, will benefit. For couples who say, "We're fine because we never argue," please be cautious: it is possible--even probable--that there are real arguments which you've simply buried. Emotional things are always buried *alive*, their ugly return is only a matter of time. The right question to ask is: Is your marital union closer now than it was, say, two years ago, or 20 years ago, or 40 years ago? If not, then the course is for you.

What it's not. The Marriage Course is not a replacement for marriage counseling, or psychological therapy, or psychiatric treatment, or spiritual direction. Other resources may be necessary for you.

The course will be Friday evenings, from **Oct. 9th through Nov. 20th** inclusive. The evening is designed to feel like a date. Arrival at 6:45 pm. Wine and cheese served at candlelit tables, one couple per table. The talk begins at 7:05 pm. Dessert will be served around 7:40. Dismissal at 9 pm. Fr. N. hit play on the DVD machine. The cost is \$45 per couple which includes the workbooks and the refreshments.

Couple Registration Please fill out the following and return to the office.

Today's Date: _____

Name of Couple: _____

Date and Place of Marriage: _____

We anticipate being able to come to all of the dates: Yes _____ No _____

We know there will be a scheduling conflict on this date(s): _____

I could foresee us becoming a mentor couple in the future for other couples. Yes _____ No _____

We understand the fee is \$45, which we will pay on or before Oct. 9th. Yes _____ No _____

--OR-- Volunteer Registration (Attending Couples cannot volunteer simultaneously.)

Name: _____ Marital Status: _____

Marriage is important. I would like to volunteer to help run the course. I could help with the following:

Administration: _____

Host/hostess: _____

Food Prep: _____

Serving _____

Set up and Clean up _____