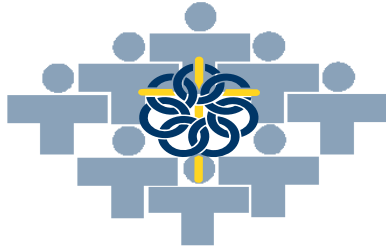


WINTER / SPRING 2010

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, Associate Director

Pat Spain, Secretary

Catholics Come Home

The **Catholics Come Home** campaign (www.catholicscomehomejoliet.org) is an effort aimed at intentionally and directly asking inactive Catholics to consider becoming active and involved Catholics again. The multimedia campaign in the Chicagoland area formally began during Advent, and will continue through January, although it is hoped that its effects will be felt long afterward.

Many Catholics become inactive at the time of some sort of family transition. However, many inactive Catholics become active again at the time of a family transition, also. The sheet enclosed in this newsletter was widely disseminated at the beginning of the Catholics Come Home Campaign. It describes the range of family issues which Catholics might be dealing with. This sheet could be used as a permanent reference for parish staff and volunteers.

Diocesan Year of the Eucharist

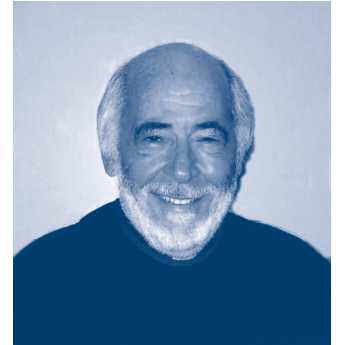
In order to emphasize the role of the Eucharist in our understanding of ourselves as Catholics, Bishop Sartain has called for a Year of the Eucharist, commencing on Holy Thursday this April, and finishing in 2011 with a diocesan-wide Eucharistic Congress. The Center for Family Ministry and all other diocesan offices will be quite involved in these events. We urge you, as you plan events in any area of family ministry in your parish, to consider highlighting the vital relationship between the dying and rising involved in family life and the Paschal mystery of Jesus as it is commemorated and re-created in the Eucharist. Please call us if you would like to discuss ideas or possibilities in this area.

March 20, 2010

Annual Conference for the Divorced and Widowed:

Risking Faith, Achieving Joy

St. Charles Pastoral Center, Romeoville
Featuring Reverend Tony Palazzolo



The loss of a spouse due to death or divorce can deeply affect our faith. Some of us become closer to God; others become extremely angry at him; others may even question his existence. For Father Tony Palazzolo, faith is a gift from God that ultimately answers every question. However, our faith is profoundly influenced by what we allow to enter our minds. On this day of retreat we will take the time to look at the connection between the gift of faith we are given and the daily choices we make to nourish it. Through good times and bad, our faith works if we work at it.

Father Tony has a great deal of compassion for those who have suffered the loss of a spouse through death or divorce. Years before his ordination as a priest in 1993, he was married, divorced and subsequently was granted an annulment. He single-parented three children through high school and college and has 11 grandchildren. Father Tony is a consultant for the Family Life Office of the Diocese of St. Augustine in Florida, where he presents workshops and seminars on parenting, divorce adjustment, faith, relationships and other related subjects. In 2008, he was awarded the James J. Young award by the Catholic Divorced Ministry formerly the North American conference of Separated and Divorced Catholics for his many years of dedicated service to this ministry.

We start with 9:00 a.m. check-in and conclude with a 4:00 p.m. liturgy that satisfies the Sunday obligation, celebrated by Bishop Imsch. **The \$35.00 fee includes, lunch, refreshments, and materials. Please use the enclosed registration form or call The Center for Family Ministry (815-838-5334).**

Damon Owens to Speak at March 20 Marriage Enrichment Event

The Inter-Parish Marriage Enrichment Team (IMET) will be offering its third marriage enrichment conference this March at the Wentz Concert Hall on the campus of North Central College in Naperville. The featured speaker will be Damon Owens from the Theology of the Body Institute. The seminar is for married couples of all ages. Mr. Owens will draw upon his experiences as husband, father, and child of God to present the essential truths of the marriage covenant. The coordinator of Natural Family Planning for the Archdiocese of Newark, Damon has appeared on EWTN, ABC World News Tonight, and CBS News 48 hours, as well as National Public Radio. Bishop Sartain will offer opening remarks.



This event will run from 8:30 to 12:30 and will cost \$30.00 per couple. Drinks and light refreshments are included in the price. For more information or to register with pay-pal, couples should go to "<http://www.imetevents.org>" www.imetevents.org.

IMET is a consortium of seven DuPage County Catholic parishes in Naperville, Lisle, and Woodridge who have banded together to offer marriage enrichment events. Other parishes or clusters interested in a similar arrangement should call Dr. Jim Healy at the Center.

RACHEL'S VINEYARD

This retreat is for reconciliation and healing for post-abortive men and women, sponsored by the Joliet Diocesan Life Office. The weekend dates for **2010** are **February 5-7 and September 10-12** 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 "<http://www.rachelsvineyard.org/>" www.rachelsvineyard.org or call the toll free national hotline 1-877-HOPE-4ME.

SUPPORT FOR ANNULMENT PETITIONERS

Working on annulment papers alone without support can be emotionally painful, overwhelming, and frustrating. Papers often get shoved into a desk drawer and more often than not are never worked on again. In an effort to help petitioners complete their part of the process, the Center for Family Ministry, in collaboration with the Joliet Diocesan Tribunal, is once again offering a Day of Support for Annulment Petitioners on Saturday, **February 20, 2010** from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at the St. Charles Pastoral Center.

This workshop is designed for divorced persons who have petitioned the Diocesan Marriage Tribunal to begin the annulment process, have submitted basic data for introduction of their case, but have not yet completed the Marriage Summary Questionnaire. Catholics and non-Catholics are welcome to attend, whether remarried or not.

The day will include time for prayer, time for questions and input regarding annulments and the relational issues dealt with in the questionnaire. Participants will begin or continue filling out the questionnaire within a supportive environment. Pastoral ministers will be available for private consultation.

Lunch and materials are included in the \$25 fee. To register, please call 815-838-5334. For more information ask for Desirée Marciani.

ELIZABETH MINISTRY

Elizabeth Ministry is a like-to-like outreach to women during the special time of motherhood. Situations a parish Elizabeth minister responds to include pregnancy, miscarriage, nursing questions, stillbirth, difficulty conceiving, infertility, adoption issues, birth defects, etc. This beautiful ministry follows the scriptural example of the Visitation by bringing women together who share similar stories. Visits to affirm, support, encourage, and to assist women in these situations take place in the home, hospital, or church setting. An Elizabeth minister represents a caring church body by providing the intimacy, support, and a connected community not typically found in today's mobile society.

Parishes interested in starting an Elizabeth Ministry Chapter should contact Desirée Marciani for information and training for this ministry.

ANNULMENT FIELD ADVOCATE TRAINING

Saturday, April 17

Quite often, a person investigating the possibility of an annulment has a difficult time beginning the process. Those who help the person at a parish normally become the field advocate for that person's annulment investigation. This training, co-sponsored by the Center for Family Ministry and the Joliet Diocesan Tribunal, will provide potential "field advocates" and existing field advocates with pertinent information about the annulment process. It will also offer practical ways for the field advocate to assist, coach, and be spiritually supportive with the annulment petitioners.

Those who come to this training are selected and sent by their parish staff and, in turn, will serve their own parish in this ministry. The training takes place at St. Charles Pastoral Center in Romeoville, **from 8:30 a.m. (check-in begins at 8:00) to 3:00 p.m.** and will be conducted by Father Joseph Tapella, and Desirée Marciani. The \$15 fee covers coffee, lunch and materials.

Although the training is not mandatory, it will be very helpful, both for existing field advocates, and those who want to begin to reach out to annulment petitioners. For registration information, concerns, or questions, call Desirée Marciani at **815-838-5334**.

RAINBOWS® TRAINING

Divorce, death, and other life-altering crises are devastating experiences and often put family members at risk for a multitude of short and long-term negative effects. However, research findings also indicate that with proper intervention, families adjust to the loss and recover well. The RAINBOWS® program continues to offer healing to families experiencing these losses.

RAINBOWS® is a program which provides support for children and adolescents who are grieving a loss from a life altering crisis such as death or divorce. RAINBOWS® enables those grieving to share their feelings in an accepting, supportive, confidential small group environment facilitated by trained, caring and compassionate adults. Program sites may send their volunteers to the following training sessions at the St. Charles Pastoral Center in Romeoville. Pre-registration is required. The cost for new coordinator training is \$35.00. New facilitator training is \$55.00, and includes lunch. Please call **815-838-5334** to register, for new site start-up, or for training information.
NEW COORDINATOR TRAINING: Saturday, January 16, 2010 - 9:00 a.m. - 12 noon
NEW FACILITATOR TRAINING: Saturday, January 23, 2010 - 9:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.



Please note the September, 2010 training dates:

New Coordinator Training - Saturday, September 11, 2010
New Facilitator Training - Saturday, September 18, 2010

RAINBOWS® Available to Parishes AT COST

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

JOYFUL AGAIN!

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 **March 6&7**. For more information, to register, or for other dates and locations, please contact Charlotte Hrubec at 708-354-7211 or check the web at "<http://www.joyfulagain.org/>"

LIFE'S HEALING JOURNEY For the Divorced and Widowed

A spiritual call to healing and hope for those grieving the end of their marriage, these weekend retreats will be led by the Missionaries of the Sacred Heart. All those wanting to take a spiritual look at grieving, forgiveness, and their own healing are warmly invited. The next retreat takes place on the weekend of **February 26-28** and is sponsored by the Office of Family Life of the Diocese of Rockford. For more information please call the Missionaries of the Sacred Heart at 630-892-1426.

FIFTY WAYS TO STRENGTHEN MARRIAGES AT YOUR PARISH

In response to a number of requests from parish staff members, this presentation, offered last October 3, will be repeated on **Thursday, April 15**.

The United States Bishops have called us to greater efforts at building up and strengthening marriages at the parish level. To help respond to that directive, this **9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.** workshop will introduce participants to a wide variety of ways that marriages can be honored and strengthened in the local setting. Since every parish is unique, it is important to offer a range of strategies and ideas, so that the most appropriate options can be chosen from among them. Dr. Jim Healy, director of the Center for Family Ministry, will offer the workshop.

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

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

The \$10 per person charge covers the cost of the refreshments and materials. Please register by Monday, April 12 by using the enclosed registration form or by calling the office at **815-838-5334**.

New Pastoral Letter on Marriage Released

The U.S. Catholic Bishops' National Pastoral Initiative for Marriage reached another milestone on November 17 when the full body of bishops at their semi-annual meeting approved a pastoral letter entitled "Marriage: Love and Life in the Divine Plan." Both the full version and a 1,500 word abridged version are available at the bishops' marriage website, "<http://www.foryourmarriage.org>" www.foryourmarriage.org. Spanish translations are being prepared and will be available online and from USCCB Publishing early in 2010.

UPDATES ON FOCCUS

FOCCUS has created a new website which results in a significantly improved printout of the FOCCUS results. FOCCUS, Inc is asking that all FOCCUS users move in the direction of online administration and scoring. A number of parishes have already made the transition, and those trained as FOCCUS facilitators in the future will be trained in this method. The Center for Family Ministry has materials that can be sent to any parish to help them with this transition, and is also happy to answer any questions.

On **Tuesday, February 23**, a special meeting will be held at 7:00 p.m. at St. Teresa Catholic Church in Kankakee for all marriage prep coordinators or parish representatives who would like to review online administration and scoring and related changes. On **Tuesday, March 23**, a session will be held at 7:00 p.m. at St. Raphael's Parish in Naperville to demonstrate the changes. Please call the Center for Family Ministry at 815-838-5334 to pre-register.

FOCCUS PRE-MARITAL INVENTORY 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.

Dr. Jim Healy will offer a special one-day training program for FOCCUS at the St. Charles Pastoral Center in Romeoville on **Saturday, March 6, 2010**, from **9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.** Certain changes have been made in the way FOCCUS is to be scored and administered, and participants will have the opportunity to become familiar with these changes.

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

AREA-WIDE CELEBRATION OF MARRIAGE IN KANKAKEE COUNTY

The Inter-Parish Women's Committee is sponsoring an event on Sunday, **February 28** at 3:00 pm at Maternity BVM Church in Bourbonnais. Couples are invited to attend a presentation by Dr. Jim Healy, director of the Center for Family Ministry, entitled **How to Be Married... and Stay Engaged**. The afternoon will begin with prayer and a marriage blessing. The presentation will be followed by a cocktail hour in the Parish Center. For more information or to register please call St. Patrick's Church at 815-932-6716.

WEDDING ANNIVERSARY MASS

The Thirty-second Annual Wedding Anniversary Mass is scheduled for **Sunday, August 29, 2010**, and will begin at **2:00 p.m.**, so please mark your calendars! The celebrant will be Bishop J. Peter Sartain. Many couples celebrating their 50th anniversary look forward to this special Mass. More specific information will be forthcoming.

WORLD MARRIAGE DAY DINNER DANCE ON FEBRUARY 13

All couples are invited to an evening of dinner and dancing on Saturday, February 13 from 6 p.m. to 11 p.m. at the Seven Bridges Golf Club, One Mulligan Drive, Woodridge (Route 53 and 63rd Street). The cost per couple is \$65. Interested couples should make their check payable to Worldwide Marriage Encounter and send it to Tom & Laura Nolan, 11619 Parkside Ln, Mokena, IL 60448, along with their name, phone number, and email or home address for confirmation. For more information, call 708-479-9791. This event is sponsored by Worldwide Marriage Encounter.

CATHOLIC ENGAGED ENCOUNTER in Romeoville

For reservations, call 630-375-7072 or go to "<http://www.engagedencounter.org>" www.engagedencounter.org
English Dates for 2010: Feb 19-21, Mar 19-21, Apr 23-25, May 21-23, Sept 17-19, Oct 15-17, Nov 19-21, Dec 17-19

Spanish Dates for 2010: April 24 & 25,
July 31 & Aug 1, Nov 13 & 14
For reservations, call 815-834-4037

WORLDWIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER WEEKEND

For reservations, call 630-577-0778 or go to <http://www.wwme.org> www.wwme.org
Upcoming dates for 2010: Feb 12-14, Feb 19-21, Apr 16-18, Apr 23-25, June 4-6, Sept 10-12, Oct 22-24, Nov 5-7 and Dec 3-5 in Burr Ridge;
also, June 11-13 and Sept 17-19 in Wood Dale

RETRouvaille WEEKEND FOR TROUBLED MARRIAGES

For reservations, call 708-802-1830 or go to <http://www.retrouvaille.org> www.retrouvaille.org
Upcoming dates for 2010:
April 16-18 & Oct 1-3 in Romeoville
June 25-27 & Dec 3-5 in Chicago
Feb 19-21 in Rockford

Setting the Prisoner Free: Getting Information and Help for Sexual Addiction

Internet pornography in its various formats is responsible for a tremendous increase in the number of people suffering from sexual addiction. A recent survey by Christianity Today indicated that two thirds of Christian men admit to struggling with internet pornography. Addiction/obsession with pornography has a tremendously debilitating effect on the victim's sense of self, his or her marriage or marriage prospects, and on the spiritual life. This is largely a silent struggle, bringing shame, despair and alienation in its wake.

A one day ecumenical workshop to respond to this concern has been scheduled for **Saturday, January 16**. All those in ministry, as well as all other interested individuals, will find this to be an informative and helpful day. It will be held at the Blanchard Alliance Church in Wheaton, Illinois from 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. The keynote speakers are Cynthia Power, the Rev. David Rennard, and Françoise Mastroianni. The afternoon agenda includes a choice of seminar sessions, a witness talk from a person who has been through the cycle of addiction and recovery, and a presentation on resources. For more information, please contact the Rev. David Rennard at 708-769-1509. Please contact the Center for Family Ministry to receive a brochure with registration form.

ANNULMENTS: WHAT CATHOLICS AND NON-CATHOLICS SHOULD KNOW

**February 6, 9:30 a.m. to noon,
St Joan of Arc Parish Center, Lisle**

Designed for those who are thinking about beginning the annulment process, this session will be conducted by Desiree Marciani. She will explore the Church's definition of marriage and of annulment, the steps involved and the benefits and difficulties encountered. Please call Paul Fay at 630-353-4516 to register.

NATURAL FAMILY PLANNING CLASSES

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

St. Charles Pastoral Center in Romeoville

Two-session classes in English are held the first and third Tuesday of each month from 7 to 9 p.m. Please note: Additional March, 2010 classes will take place at Christ the King Parish in Lombard on Mon, March 8 and Mon, March 22.

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

Two-session classes in Spanish are held the second and fourth Sunday of each month, from 3 to 5 p.m. Please note: The May, 2010 classes will be held on May 2 and May 16.

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

St John the Baptist in Winfield

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

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

Provena St. Mary Hospital in Kankakee

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

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

Diocese of Joliet

The Center for Family Ministry

St. Charles Pastoral Center
402 S. Independence Blvd.
Romeoville, Illinois 60446-2264
(815) 838-5334

FAX (815) 834-4045
E-mail familyministry@dioceseofjoliet.org
Website dioceseofjoliet.org/familyministry

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Upcoming Events – Register Below

JANUARY

- 5 Natural Family Planning, English, #1, Romeoville
- 10 Natural Family Planning, Spanish, #1, Romeoville
- 16 Setting the Prisoner Free, Wheaton
- 16 Rainbows Coordinator Training
- 19 Natural Family Planning, English, #2, Romeoville
- 23 Rainbows Facilitator Training

FEBRUARY

- 2 Natural Family Planning, English, #1, Romeoville
- 5-7 Rachel's Vineyard, Romeoville
- 12-14 Worldwide Marriage Encounter, Burr Ridge
- 13 World Marriage Day Event
- 14 Natural Family Planning, Spanish, #1, Romeoville
- 16 Natural Family Planning, English, #2, Romeoville
- 19-21 Catholic Engaged Encounter, English
- 19-21 Worldwide Marriage Encounter, Burr Ridge
- 19-21 Retrouvaille, Rockford
- 20 Annulment Support Day
- 23 FOCCUS Update, Kankakee
- 26-28 Life's Healing Journey
- 28 Natural Family Planning, Spanish, #2, Romeoville

MARCH

- 2 Natural Family Planning, English, #1, Romeoville
- 6 FOCCUS Training
- 6-7 Joyful Again!, Romeoville
- 14 Natural Family Planning, Spanish, #1, Romeoville
- 16 Natural Family Planning, English, #2, Romeoville
- 19-21 Catholic Engaged Encounter, English
- 20 Conference for Divorced & Widowed
- 20 Creating a Joy Filled Marriage, Naperville
- 23 FOCCUS Update, Naperville
- 28 Natural Family Planning, Spanish, #2, Romeoville

APRIL

- 1 Year of the Eucharist begins
- 6 Natural Family Planning, English, #1, Romeoville

- 11 Natural Family Planning, Spanish, #1, Romeoville
- 15 Fifty Ways to Strengthen Marriages
- 16-18 Retrouvaille, Romeoville
- 16-18 Worldwide Marriage Encounter, Burr Ridge
- 17 Annulment Field Advocate Training
- 20 Natural Family Planning, English, #2, Romeoville
- 23-25 Catholic Engaged Encounter, English
- 23-25 Worldwide Marriage Encounter, Burr Ridge
- 24-25 Catholic Engaged Encounter, Spanish
- 25 Natural Family Planning, Spanish, #2, Romeoville

MAY

- 2 Natural Family Planning, Spanish, #1, Romeoville
- 4 Natural Family Planning, English, #1, Romeoville
- 16 Natural Family Planning, Spanish, #2, Romeoville
- 18 Natural Family Planning, English, #2, Romeoville
- 21-23 Catholic Engaged Encounter, English

JUNE

- 1 Natural Family Planning, English, #1, Romeoville
- 4-6 Worldwide Marriage Encounter, Burr Ridge
- 11-13 Worldwide Marriage Encounter, Wood Dale
- 13 Natural Family Planning, Spanish, #1, Romeoville
- 15 Natural Family Planning, English, #2, Romeoville
- 25-27 Retrouvaille, Chicago
- 27 Natural Family Planning, Spanish, #2, Romeoville

JULY

- 6 Natural Family Planning, English, #1, Romeoville
- 20 Natural Family Planning, English, #2, Romeoville

AUGUST

- 3 Natural Family Planning, English, #1, Romeoville
- 17 Natural Family Planning, English, #2, Romeoville
- 29 Wedding Anniversary Mass

The Center For Family Ministry

402 S. Independence Blvd. • Romeoville, IL. • 60446-2264

(815) 838-5334 • FAX (815) 834-4045

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

REGISTRATION FORM

We have included this generic registration form for your convenience. Please duplicate it if you wish to register for one of our programs.

NAME: _____

ADDRESS _____ CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

PARISH _____ DAYTIME PHONE _____

TITLE OF WORKSHOP _____

DATE OF WORKSHOP _____ FEE ENCLOSED _____

E-MAIL ADDRESS _____



Catholics Come Home

Catholics often return to the Church in relation to some family need. They are getting married. They are having a child. They are divorcing. They wish to marry again in the church. A spouse, or a parent, or a child has died. These events overtake the active Catholic, the nominal Catholic, and the marginal Catholic. During the time of Catholics Come Home, it may well be that more people with a “felt need” regarding family issues will return to the Church.

Marriage preparation

The marriage rate in the Catholic Church has dropped by a third in the last 20 years while the marriage rate in the United States has dropped by 10% over the same time period. Still, 1714 couples were married in the Joliet Diocese last year. Do we welcome them with joy, and help them prepare for marriage in a way that helps them draw closer to the parish community? **For help with your marriage preparation program and related issues, please contact Dr. Jim Healy at the Center for Family Ministry.**

Baptism Preparation / Outreach to Young Families

With the birth of the first child and subsequent children, many new stresses are placed upon the couple or single parent. A recent national study of Catholic young adults said that they would be most interested in church involvement around the issues of “pregnancy, new parenthood, and meeting other new parents.” When one considers the expressed need and potential impact, many baptism preparation programs are quite minimal. **For help with your baptism preparation program and related issues, please contact Dr. Jim Healy. For Elizabeth Ministry (women caring for pregnant, infertile or new moms), contact Desiree Marciani at the Center for Family Ministry.**

Troubled Marriages

When a marriage breaks down, many people find that they need their faith and the support of their Church in a new way. **For help in responding to those in troubled marriages, please call Dr. Jim Healy.**

Divorce

The divorce rate in America is still probably between 40 and 50%, and Catholics as a group do not differ very significantly from this percentage. People often look to the church during this time of painful transitions. **For help in caring for the divorced, please contact Desiree Marciani.**

Annulment

Some divorced Catholics wish to investigate the possibility of a decree of nullity (annulment). Roughly 1 out of 7 divorced Catholics have approached the tribunal for this purpose. **Desiree Marciani works closely with Fr. Tapella to offer supportive programs for those considering or undertaking the annulment process. Please contact her for more information.**

Bereavement

Perhaps at no other time do those loosely connected with the Church draw closer than when a family member dies. The kind of attention and care we offer them in Christ’s name at this time is crucial. **For help in reaching out to the bereaved, please contact Desiree Marciani.**

For more information and our current newsletter, go to www.dioceseofjoliet.org/familyministry