

## OTHER OPPORTUNITIES

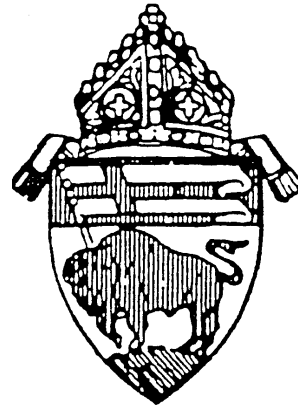
Parish-based marriage preparation programs are an option for consideration based on needs and availability. These programs are *only for couples marrying for the first time*. Each parish that is open to accepting couples has different formats but **all** cover topics consistent with diocesan marriage preparation requirements. For information contact your Office of Family Life Ministries at 716 847-2210 or e-mail [familylife@buffalodiocese.org](mailto:familylife@buffalodiocese.org).



### REGARDING THE PLACE OF MARRIAGE:

In accord with the custom of the Diocese of Buffalo, Catholic weddings are to be celebrated primarily in parish churches. Since the parish church is the “spiritual home” of the family of God, where the life-giving sacraments are normally celebrated and since the parish is the heart of sacramental life and ministry, weddings in non-sacred places (gardens, parks, hotels, etc.) are prohibited. Also, weddings in high school chapels, religious houses, and oratories that are not attached to a parish are not permitted.

*May your marriage be filled with God's abundant blessings of peace, love and joy.*



## FOR YOUR DIOCESAN MARRIAGE PREPARATION

***“And the two shall become one”***



**Office of Family Life Ministries  
795 Main Street  
Buffalo, NY 14203**

**Phone 716 847-2210**

**Email: [familylife@buffalodiocese.org](mailto:familylife@buffalodiocese.org)**

**Deacon Tom & Gini Schultz  
Directors**

Congratulations on your upcoming wedding and marriage!

We are happy to assist you in your personal preparations for the Sacrament of Marriage.

Precana experiences generally include prayer, presentations by trained team couples on various topics such as communication, intimacy, everyday living, sacrament of marriage, finances in daily life and more. Opportunity for you to share privately with your future spouse is provided. Each precana offers unique aspects all designed to provide you and your future spouse with an affirming and enriching program. ***You will receive your precana certificate at the conclusion of your program.***

Any **ONE** of the following precana programs satisfies the requirements for marriage preparation for the Diocese of Buffalo.

***JOURNEY INTO LOVE:*** A marriage preparation program that is designed **for couples where both individuals are marrying for the first time.** It is a eight hour, one day program that uses presentations offered by trained married couple teams. Engaged couples use various communication exercises focusing on such areas as dynamics of effective communication, intimacy, marital roadblocks, natural family planning and sacramental commitment. Program includes dinner and prayer service. **Cost is \$80 per couple no matter the location.**

#### 2009

*St. Columban Center, 6892 Lakeshore Rd.  
Derby 14047*

*Registration: (716) 947-4708*

*Time: 1:45 pm to 9:30 pm*

*Sunday September 20, October 18 and November 15.*

*The Catholic Center, 795 Main St., Buffalo  
14203*

*Registration Office of Family Life Ministries  
716 847-2210*

*Time: 9:15 am to 5:00 pm*

*Saturday December 12, 2009*

#### 2010

*Saturday's at the Catholic Center.*

*January 23 February 20*

*Registration 716 847-2210*

*Time: 9:15 pm to 5:00 pm.*

*Sunday's at the St. Columban Center*

*March 7 March 21*

*Registration at St. Columban Center*

*716 947-4708*

*Time: 1:45 pm to 9:30 pm*

*Sunday at Christ the King Seminary*

*April 18*

*Registration Office of Family Life*

*Ministries 716 847-2210*

*Time: 9:15 am to 5:00 pm*

*Saturday's at Christ the King Seminary*

*May 15 May 22*

*Registration at Office of Family Life*

*Ministries 716 847-2210*

*Sunday's at Christ the King Seminary*

*June 6 June 13*

*Registration at Office of Family Life*

*Ministries 716 847-2210*

*Saturday's at Center of Renewal, Stella  
Niagara, Lewiston*

*June 12 June 19*

*Registration at Office of Family Life*

*Ministries 716 847-2210*

*Sunday at Christ the King Seminary*

*September 19*

*Registration at Office of Family Life*

*Ministries 716 847-2210*

*Saturday at Christ the King Seminary*

*October 16*

*Registration at Office of Family Life*

*Ministries 716 847-2210*

*Saturday's at the Catholic Center*

*November 13 December 11*

*Registration at Office of Family Life*

*Ministries 716 847-2210*

**CATHOLIC ENGAGED ENCOUNTER:** A weekend (Friday night to Sunday afternoon) retreat based on techniques of Marriage Encounter: presentation, reflection, dialogue. Conducted by a priest and trained married couple

teams. Covers areas of communication, adjustment to marriage, sacramentality/spirituality of marriage. Liturgy provided both days. Sacrament of Reconciliation is available. ***This retreat is ONLY for couples marrying for the first time.***

***Retreat is held at  
Christ the King Seminary  
711 Knox Road  
East Aurora, NY 14052***

***For information call Mike & Sue Maute 716 685-2114  
msmaute@verizon.net***

**CANA II:** A sponsor couple program designed for couples ***remarrying***. Topics addressed include step-parenting, stepfamily structure, communication, intimacy, sacramental commitment and marital roadblocks. *This program specifically fits the needs of couples in which at least one person is widowed or divorced.* In the latter case, previous marriages need to have been annulled or declared invalid by the Church. A brochure is available for your information. ***In order to make this precana contact your Office of Family Life Ministries at 716 847-2210 or Deacon Tom & Gini Schultz at 716 837-6020.***

#### **CATHOLIC MARRIAGE PREPARATION ON-LINE**

An interactive on-line preparation program **available to couples who cannot attend traditional programs.** Material covered follows similar curriculum as our regular diocesan programs. This program consists of five classes covering the spiritual teachings of the Church on the Sacrament and includes a life skills workshop on potential problems in marital life and solutions; praying together, forgiveness and more. ***This preparation program is available in English, Spanish and French.*** Cost is \$150. Our office works in collaboration with Christian and Christine Meert, Directors. Couples receive their precana certificate upon satisfactory completion which is accepted by our office for our Diocese. **Contact information and/or registration: call 1-866-425-7193; e-mail: [www.CatholicMarriagePrep.com](http://www.CatholicMarriagePrep.com) or Office of Family Life Ministries at 716 847-2210 for a brochure.**

