

Office of Marriage and Family Life

What we do – Resources for Parishes and Schools

Supporting Parishes and Schools

Our top priority is supporting our parishes, schools and faith communities in serving their families.

Marriage Preparation training for parish staff and volunteers

All parish staff and volunteers who help prepare couples for marriage are invited to join us for regional trainings covering what's required, finding the right mix of resources for your parish, preparing the civilly married and engaging with young adults. Check out our website for dates.



Marriage Preparation Programs and Library

Contact our Office to review our library of Marriage Preparation programs, provide marriage preparation retreats or events to your parishioners and even offer civilly married couples in your parish a path back to the sacraments with convenient formation.



Enriching and strengthening marriages

Strong marriages make for stronger communities. We offer support for marriage enrichment events in your parish or at our beautiful Archbishop Brunett Retreat Center at the Palisades.

Building a 'field hospital' for marriages and families

Answering Pope Francis' call to engage families on the margins "to help them live better lives and to recognize their proper place in the Church." (Amoris Laetitia #312) we:

- Offer resources for marriages in difficulty
- Help families to recover from divorce and loss
- Help the civilly married return to the sacraments
- Help those addicted to pornography to break free

"The family is a school of deeper humanity."

Gaudium et Spes 52

Serving our Cultural Communities

Collaborating with the Office of Hispanic Ministry and Office of Multicultural Ministry we offer:

- Marriage preparation for the civilly married in Spanish
- Parent formation in Spanish
- Marriage Preparation training and resources in Spanish



Promoting Natural Family Planning (NFP)

NFP provides a safe, effective and life-giving way to understand and manage fertility. We are recruiting and training teachers and using our website to quality teachers with those who want to learn.

Check out our website <https://marriagefamilylife.seattlearchdiocese.org>

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Connect with Families with *At Home with Faith*

Every week, we provide parishes with free, sharable videos, photos and text that parishes and schools can cut and paste to send to their families via bulletin, Enewsletter and social media. Also, families can receive this information directly by Email. Go to our At Home with Faith website for more information:

Athemewithfaith.org



Schedule an interactive parent formation presentation at your Parish or School

Each of the following presentations engage parents as collaborators in forming their children in Religion, Morality and Catholic Identity Core Concepts for every grade level.

- 1. Great Conversations: Talking with your children about God's plan for love and marriage** – Helps parents to address the challenges presented by technology, manage screen-time and grow closer with their children by deepening their relationship with God, school and parish community.
- 2. Made for Excellence: Forming children for wisdom, justice, courage and self-control** – Prepares parents to form their children in virtues they can apply in family and in school.
- 3. Do We Really Have to Go? Why Going to Mass will change your life for the better** – Renews parents' appreciation of the Mass and helps them make the experience better for their children.
- 4. Taming Technology: Managing Screen Time by Making Space for God and Family** – Provides the whys and hows to manage screens and technology in the home.
- 5. Known and Loved: Dealing with the Hard Questions our Children Will Ask** – Prepares parents for questions our children will ask about love and identity.
- 6. Finding Calm in the Storm: Practical Ways to Find Peace at Home** – Teaches proven practices from the Rule of St. Benedict to increase stability, balance and peace at home.

**Parent Meeting
Requirements
Minutes: 45+
Cost: \$0**



Engaging families in the Year of the Family

Beginning with the Feast of St. Joseph and running through the World Meeting of Families in June 2022, Pope Francis declared this the Year of Amoris Laetitia Family. In addition to the resources described above, collaborating with the Communications Office, we will offer parishes a series of bulletin inserts that highlight how the Eucharist strengthens family life. Look for these inserts on the C2P and on our website.



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