

Marriage Enrichment Ministry

Strategic Planning for the fiscal year of July 2023-June 2024

*dates/times may be rescheduled or canceled

July

June-August Home Fellowship- Backyard/deck gatherings

15- Encuentro Matrimonial from 9:30-Noon in the Art Room

21- Backyard Fellowship at Tony and Karen's home at 6 PM

23-26th Natural Family Planning Awareness Week (resources on FB and in FN)

August

(16th Nativity teachers back, and school begins on the 23rd)

19- Encuentro Matrimonial from 9:30-Noon in the Art Room

20- Family Ministry/MEM & KofC "Family Movie" Afternoon 12-4 PM in the cafeteria

23- Catechism in a Year Meeting #4 with Fr. Bresnahan at 7 PM in room 242 (open to all adults in the parish)

30- Parish Volunteer Appreciation Evening

31- Peachwave Fellowship (offsite at University Mall across from George Mason, families, children, and friends invited "No Weigh" Thursday at 6 PM

September

9- Heroes Hike at 10:30 AM-Noon; Bunnyman Brewery 6:30-8:30 PM

13- Engaged Sponsor Couples Meeting with Fr. Bob at 7 PM in his conference room

15- Spanish and English-Speaking MEM Salsa Dance Night and Potluck at 7 PM in the cafeteria (date may change so it is not an evening before Matrimonial)

16- Encuentro Matrimonial from 9:30-Noon in the Art Room

23- Date Night in the cafeteria from 6 PM with refreshments; Fr. Bob as our speaker at 6:30 PM on "The Blessed Mother." Childcare provided.

30- Parish Fall Festival

October

13, 20, and 27th- "Choice of Wine" marriage enrichment program from 7-8:45 in the school-teacher's lounge with potluck dinner

21- Encuentro Matrimonial from 9:30-Noon in the Art Room

28- Adult Children of Divorce Mini-Retreat; Mass at 9 AM, followed by refreshments in the narthex from 9:35-10 AM; Retreat in the church from 10 AM until Noon- speakers are Art Bennett and Alex Wolf

November

3, 10, 17- "Choice of Wine" marriage enrichment program from 7-8:45 in the school- teacher's lounge

18- Date Night with Laraine Bennett "Art of Living with Less" focusing on the family with less in the home; 6 PM refreshments; 6:30 PM speaker starts. Childcare provided.

18- Encuentro Matrimonial from 9:30-Noon in the Art Room

29- Catechist in a Year Meeting #5 with Fr. Bresnahan at 7 pm in room 242

December

2- Book Fellowship "Marriage 9-1-1" and the KofC video with Greg and Julie Alexander or the book "The Mystery of Faithful Love;" 7-8:30 PM cafeteria lead by Deacon Kelly

16- Encuentro Matrimonial from 9:30-Noon in the Art Room

January

5- Catechism in a Year Dinner Celebration at 7 PM with Fr. Bresnahan in the cafeteria or teachers' lounge; dinner provided by the MEM

13- Pro-life fellowship in the teachers' lounge, organizing with Rick and Linda Loffredo

20- March of Life in D.C. depart from Nativity by bus after Mass

20- Encuentro Matrimonial from 9:30-Noon in the Art Room

26- Friday Pizza at Malek's in Springfield at 6:30 PM in their main dining room

February

10- Date Night with Alex Wolf- Theology of the Body- Song of Songs at 6:30 PM in the Fr. Ready Room

Date?--World Marriage Sunday Mass and Dinner with Bishop Burbidge (at another parish)

11- World Marriage Sunday (marriage blessing at each Mass)

14- St. Valentine's Day and Ash Wednesday

17- Encuentro Matrimonial from 9:30-Noon in the Art Room

March

23- Dr. Horne speaker for parents (geared towards parents of children in MS and HS) and their marriage during the teen years (will touch on teens being exposed to topics such as transgender, mental health/anxiety and bullying). 6 PM Refreshments; 6:30 PM speaker starts in the cafeteria. Childcare provided.

16- Knights of Columbus St. Patrick's Dinner- invite all couples to attend. Childcare provided.

31- Easter

April

5, 12, 19, 26, a 4-Week "Love and Respect" Marriage Program, will meet in the teachers' lounge

20- Date Night "What happens after the kids leave" (grow up and are out of the house), with the speakers being the Ostrowski, Rimkus and Bowden at 6:30 PM in the cafeteria. Childcare provided.

May

11th- MEM Day Retreat "REFOCCUS" at Nativity 9 AM-4 PM; Mass at 9 AM in the Church, Retreat in the Church, use cafeteria for lunch and meeting space; 3:30 confession with parish. Retreat title is "Celebrating the Gifts of Marriage." Lead coordinator is Deacon Kelly.

Planning Team: Joe and Beatrice, Craig and Anne, John and Cheryl, Deacon Kelly and Joyce, & Tony and Karen

18- MEM with Knights of Columbus BBQ/Yard Games will need the cafeteria kitchen, blacktop (if raining, would need to be inside the FMC or cafeteria at 7 PM

Future Date Night Speakers for 2024-2025 and beyond (not booked over long weekends)

- Steve Weidenkopf “Light from Darkness”- Nine Times the Catholic Church was in turmoil – and came out stronger than before (open to all adults in the parish)
- One Acts and Dinner
- Damon Owens (big speaker every other year), topic: Together in Holiness Marriage Enrichment
- Fr. Scalia on “Leisure and the Domestic Church”
- Greg and Julie Alexander (from Texas, big speaker every other year)

Video Recordings to record/edit/add to YouTube:

- Chuck and Carole, MEM mentor couple- need to record

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