

Session Information

Session 1 - Communication

This workshop will identify obstacles to and enhancers of effective communication in the marital relationship. The two areas that will be highlighted are: communication towards problem solving and communicating towards affirming a loving relationship. Specific topics will include the following: defining "normalcy" of conflicts; identifying styles of communication that go toward compatibility and incompatibility; practical pathways to effective problem solving; identifying the basic love languages; and understanding the functional effects of the "brain" in the experience of the "self" as couples communicate with each other.

Session 2 - Family of Origins

Discover ways in which your marriage commitment is influenced by experiences you had growing up in your family; identify how your relationship with parents and siblings play a role in the way you establish and maintain attachments. Become aware of the impact former relationship problems can have on your marriage. Learn from the past...and let the past work for you. As you strive to identify as a married couple, you will have a better understanding and appreciation of how relationships and experiences from the past can contribute to the present by enhancing your marriage.

Session 3 – The Many Moods of Marriage

Marital researchers estimate the rate of divorce for first marriages to be between 50-67% (Martin & Bumpass, 1989), and even 10% higher for second marriages (Glick, 1994). Navigating through the "many moods of marriage" becomes a major challenge facing any new couple. This session will help you avoid pitfalls that lead many couples to divorce. Learn how to divorce-proof, strengthen and enrich your marriage. This session will also cover the sacramental component of marriage.

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Session 4 - Blended Families

There are many tasks needed for a successful integration and blending of two families into one. This workshop will cover issues that include: overcoming loyalty issues, co-parenting, myths, and legends about step-parents, discipline strategies, and starting and establishing rituals and traditions as a new family unit. The Brady Bunch is only a TV show -- the real thing takes a lot of planning, understanding and hard work.

2019 Schedule & Registration Deadlines

\$25.00 late fee applies to registrations after deadline

Session 1

January	12	Deadline 12/28/18
June	8	Deadline 5/24/19
September	14	Deadline 8/30/19

Session 2

January	26	Deadline 1/11/19
June	22	Deadline 6/7/19
September	28	Deadline 9/13/19

Session 3

February	9	Deadline 1/25/19
July	13	Deadline 6/28/19
October	12	Deadline 9/27/19

Session 4

March	2	Deadline 2/15/19
August	3	Deadline 7/19/19
October	26	Deadline 9/11/19

Program Requirements

- ◆ In order to receive a Certificate of Completion, **all couples** are required to attend Sessions 1, 2 & 3.
- ◆ **Session 4 is also required if either of you have minor/dependent children from a previous relationship.**
- ◆ Sessions do not need to be taken in consecutive order.

Convalidation 2019

*A program for
married couples
preparing
for the
Sacrament of
Matrimony*



*Office of Marriage & Family Life
Diocese of St. Petersburg*

What Is The Cost?

The per-couple prices listed below are providing the registration is received **prior to the deadline**. **Otherwise a \$25.00 late fee applies.**

\$100.00 - 3 sessions

\$120.00 - 4 sessions (if required)

Registration Details

- ◆ Complete the included form and mail with the **non-refundable** payment of \$100.00 or \$120.00 to the address on the registration form. **Cash payment** must be hand delivered to: Bishop Larkin Pastoral Center * 6363 Ninth Avenue North * St. Petersburg 33710. **Credit cards** are not accepted.
- ◆ Registrations are processed in the order received and subject to availability at that time.
- ◆ E-mail confirmation is sent to each address provided. In the absence of E-mail, written notification will be sent to the home address.
- ◆ If you don't have confirmation within **2 weeks** of mailing your registration, contact us at: **deb@dosp.org** or call 727 - 341 - 6847. Before doing so, please check your **junk mail folder**.
- ◆ You can postpone without penalty providing notice is received a minimum of **14 days prior to each session**. Otherwise, a **\$25.00 reschedule fee applies**.

A Helpful Suggestion. . .

Couples often contact us to check availability. While this seems like a good idea, the time spent doing so is time that the registration could have been on its way to our office. In cases where space is limited, this can be the difference between being confirmed or not. Payment isn't processed unless we're 100% sure we can accommodate you. Once confirmed all penalties and fees apply as indicated in this brochure and the confirmation letter you will receive.

About The Conference

- ◆ Sessions are held at Bethany Center in Lutz. The address will be included in the confirmation letter you will receive.
- ◆ Each session begins at 9:00 a.m. and ends at Noon. Continental breakfast is available starting at 8:30.
- ◆ Dress casual and comfortable.
- ◆ Each session is presented by a Marriage & Family Therapist.
- ◆ Both the husband and wife must attend each session together.
- ◆ Those who attend as required will receive a Certificate of Completion at the conclusion of the final session.
- ◆ Regardless of age and/or circumstances, we are unable to accommodate children. Please make arrangements for their care as well as your pets while you are with us.

Please Note...

Since Bethany Center serves only as the host facility, their staff is unable to answer questions about this program or the marriage preparation process.

All contact should be with:

Office of Marriage & Family Life

E-Mail: deb@dosp.org

Phone: 727 - 341 - 6847

8:30 to 5:00 - Mon. thru Fri.

To ensure a more prompt response, E-mail is the best way to contact us as we have access to this should we be out of the office.

Detach & submit with \$100.00/\$120.00 non-refundable payment made payable to: Diocese of St. Petersburg and mail to: Convalidation, Office of Marriage & Family Life P.O. Box 40200, St. Petersburg, FL 33743 - 0200

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY: Certificate to read: Wife: _____ Husband: _____
 Wife's Name Tag: _____ Husband's Name Tag: _____
 Address: _____ Home Phone: _____
 City/State: _____ Zip: _____ Religion: _____ Age: _____
 Wife's Work #: _____ Cell #: _____ Religion: _____ Age: _____
 Husband's Work #: _____ Cell #: _____
 Church Attending: _____ City/State: _____
 Church of Convalidation: _____ City/State: _____
 Convalidation Date: _____ How many years have you been married? _____
 Priest/Deacon you are working with: _____
 At which parish: _____ City/State: _____
Dates: Communication _____ Family of Origins _____ Many Moods: _____ Blended Families _____
 Wife's E-Mail: _____
 Husband's E-Mail: _____

OFFICE USE
Amount: _____ No. _____
E-Mail: _____ Mail: _____
B ♦ G ♦ B/G B ♦ G ♦ P ♦ M ♦ F ♦ O ♦ MO