

# Marriage

## Millennial Milestone





## Still the Marrying Type

- 86 % of young adult Catholics, age 18 – 35, are either married (39 %) or say it is at least “somewhat” likely that they will marry in the future (47 %)
- Young adult Catholics believe at least “somewhat” that marriage is a lifelong commitment (91 %)

CARA 2008

<http://cara.georgetown.edu/MarriageReport.pdf>

# Marriage Prep Program Goals for Engaged Couples

- Experience the welcome of the Church community.
- Understand the teaching of the Church about marriage and family life.
- Learn some skills of communication & conflict resolution.
- Reflect on where they have come from, where they hope to go



# Partner with Married Volunteers

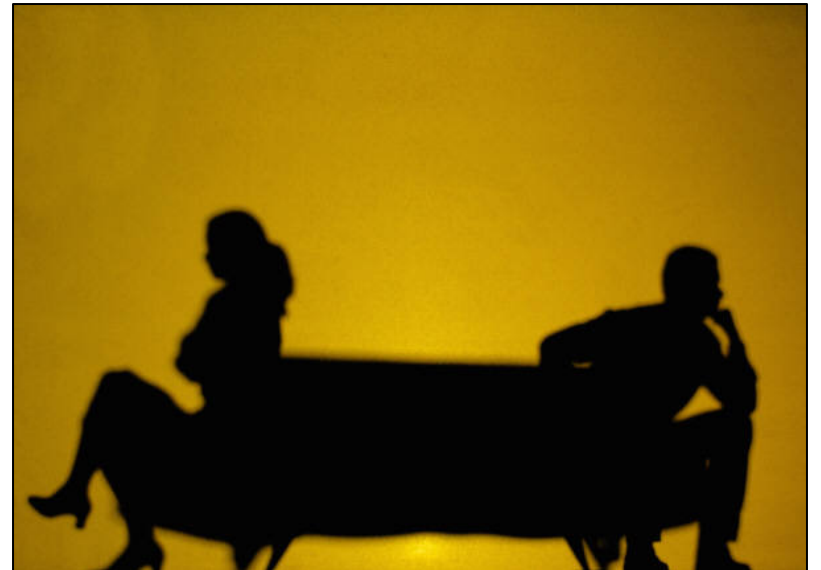
- Plan meaningful and fun preparation programs
- Choose a program style
  - One-on-One Sponsors
  - Small Group Sessions
  - Large Group Pre-Cana
  - Engaged Encounter model



***Combine styles for optimum impact!***

# Explore the 5 C's of Marriage Prep

- Commitment
- Communication
- Conflict Resolution
- Children
- Church



Engaged couples identified these topics as most helpful.

# Couples Appreciate Marriage Preparation

- Marriage preparation was seen as helpful through the first 5 years after the wedding.

Wedding Mass & Celebrations are teachable moments (Don't forget the wedding parties!)



# Beyond Prep: More ways to assist engaged & married couples

- Hospitality at registration
- Engagement rituals
- Mentor couples
- Provide new couples with resources and personal assistance as they develop a pattern of prayer
- Prayer cards for wedding day




Blessed Marie-Azélie Guérin Martin  
1831-1877

Blessed Louis Martin  
1823-1894

Parents of St. Therese of Lisieux

*Beatified on October 19, 2008,  
as Witnesses of Conjugal Love*



**If you were a newly married couple in your parish, would there be opportunities:**

- to connect with other young couples?
- to be mentored by an older couple in a strong marriage?
- to serve together in a parish liturgical, catechetical or social ministry?



*The wedding was great!  
Invite me to the marriage.*

*-God*



# Contact information

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