



The Jubilant Marriages Parish Process

Jubilant Marriages is a comprehensive pastoral plan to foster within marriages and families a living relationship with Jesus through prayer and the sacraments, to provide families with healthy human, spiritual, intellectual, and missionary formation, and to offer pastoral strategies for the accompaniment of couples through all seasons of life. This process will energize the health and holiness of married couples as the heartbeat of thriving parish communities.

What is the goal of Jubilant Marriages for my parish?

- *To create holier and happier married couples and families.*
- *To deepen the sacramental life of our parish couples and families.*
- *To increase parish participation and connectedness, and thus enrich parish culture.*
- *To infuse families with a matrimonial and vocational focus for future generations.*

How do Pastors and Clergy implement Jubilant Marriages in a parish?

- 1) ***Invite one couple to collaborate***, with the pastor's guidance, to build a core team of couples.
- 2) ***Empower the lead couple and team*** to make things happen. (Example: 2 couples guiding event planning, 2 couples to promote communications, and 2 couples to manage small groups.)
- 3) ***Share the message***. Use Jubilant Marriages Homily Hints and Intercessory Prayers to add a matrimonial message from the pulpit, and share Jubilant Marriages Parishioner Toolkits digitally.
- 4) ***(long term) Invite couples to consider training as Matrimony Mentors*** for marriage preparation and marriage accompaniment through periods of difficulty.

What does a Jubilant Marriages Core Team do?

- ***Meet as a team monthly*** - typically during the school year.
- ***Host community-building events*** for couples once or twice per year.
- ***Launch a married couple small group*** faith sharing community.
- ***Offer help & encouragement*** via: parish bulletin, websites, and personal conversation
- ***Stay connected*** with the Pastor and the parish admin team.
- ***(long term) Provide marriage accompaniment*** via couple mentoring.

***What HELP is available from the Office of Marriage & Family Life?**

- ***Personal guidance*** and help for implementation
- Fully prepared ***no-cost content*** for community-building events.
- ***Monthly digital Jubilant Marriages Toolkits*** to share with Parishioners.
- Jubilant Marriages ***Prayer Cards*** and ***Printed Materials***
- Jubilant Marriages ***Banner with QR Code*** to promote awareness and participation
- ***Training for Matrimony Mentors*** for intentional accompaniment during marriage preparation and for support/solidarity during other seasons of life.



What does implementation look like?

Jubilant Marriages COMMUNITY:

- **Build the JM Core team:** Begin by meeting monthly for 4-6 months to build relationships and determine the gifts/skills of each couple to “plug in” to establishing and growing the ministry.
- **Jubilant Marriages Masses:** Plan Jubilant Marriages Mass twice a year (Recommend: World Marriage Sunday in February, and Sunday Jubilee Mass in the Fall) to include: homily focused on marriage theme, Marriage-themed Prayers of the Faithful, pray the Jubilant Marriages Prayer.
- **Jubilant Marriages Sunday:** Jubilant Marriage Core Team couples host donuts or social time after Jubilant Marriages Mass/es with information available for couples to discover how to form or join a couple’s small group, how to find resources if they need help, and more.
- **Small Groups:** Help married couples form small groups with other parishioners. It can be with people they know or don’t know.
- **One-On-One:** JM Team encourages couples through prayer and couple-to-couple friendship.
- **Marriage Enrichment Events:** Examples include: Single session guest speakers, fun and interactive “date nights”, multi-session series, or a special invitations for couple prayer time with adoration before going on a date, etc.

Jubilant Marriages COMMUNICATION:

Cultivate a growing “culture of matrimony” conversation through both parish wide and one-on-one communications. Parish options include:

- **Bulletin:** Include regular “Matrimony Mindset” content + events
- **Newsletter:** Include the monthly Jubilant Marriages Toolkit in digital flocknotes and other emails.
- **Website:** Include Jubilant Marriages parish information and link to the Archdiocese web page.
- **Jubilant Marriages Resource Booklets.** Available in key locations of the parish campus
- **Conversation:** JM Parish Team members talk 1-on-1 with friends, neighbors and parishioners.
- **Coordination:** Supportive collaboration with members of parish office staff is important

Jubilant Marriages CONTINUITY:

- **Matrimony Mentors:** Jubilant Marriages parishes are encouraged to invite couples to consider being trained as a Matrimony Mentor to journey alongside a younger couple who is in the process of preparing for marriage (and also connect with them periodically as newly-weds). In addition, Matrimony Mentors can also choose to be mobilized by a pastor to walk alongside a couple who might be in distress during any season of married life.
- **Pass the Baton:** Core Team Couples are encouraged to plan for 3 - 5 years on the team, while cultivating other couples to step into their roles when their time in leadership concludes.

Overall, Catholic Marriage is in decline and it is the foundation on which the Church and society rests. The need is urgent to refresh couples and culture with the sacramental power of Matrimony. This will be a gradual process to ignite the full power of Matrimonial Grace in parish life...but the results will be worthwhile.

How to get a Marriage Ministry started in your parish?

Contact The Office of Marriage and Family Life:

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