

Fall Marriage Supplement

A special section of The Criterion celebrating sacramental marriage

Eucharistic Congress sessions advise on building faith-filled families

By Natalie Hoefler

During the National Eucharistic Congress in Indianapolis on July 17-21, seven morning “Impact” tracks were offered on days two through four. *The Criterion* followed several of them, including the Cultivate Impact Sessions for families.

Following is a summary of those talks. From prayer to healing to building a family tribe—with well-known speakers like Father Leo Patalinghug, Bob Schuchts and Damon and Melanie Owens—the information shared is helpful to building faith-filled families.

Heroes, drowning and ninja moves

Father Leo Patalinghug, a priest member of *Voluntas Dei* (The Will of God), a community of consecrated life, engaged children and parents in the first morning of the Cultivate Impact Session of the National Eucharistic Congress by focusing on three main points: superheroes, what to do when drowning, and the four first moves of a ninja—all beautifully tied to the Eucharist and living lives of faith.

“My favorite superheroes are Yoda and hobbits—because they’re small, like me,” he joked.

But Jesus makes himself small in the Eucharist, Father Leo noted.

“He became small so he could enter into our busy lives, into our hearts,” he said. “He puts himself into us so we can be saved from the inside out and live supernatural lives.”

Father Leo next shared the tactics lifeguards use to save a drowning victim. The hold they use “might not be comfortable, but it’s important that you don’t fight the lifeguard,” he said. “If you relax, they can get you to the shore safely.”

“And that’s what Jesus does. If we don’t fight him, if we trust him, if we let him guide us, he will get us to the shore to safety, and that shore is heaven.”

Last, the martial-arts-expert priest cited the four first moves he learned and compared them to prayer. First, come to attention—put yourself in God’s presence. Next, bow—give honor and praise to God. Third, cross your arms and take a deep breath—open your heart to God. And finally, stand in a relaxed stance—rest in God.

The Eucharist heals hearts and families

The featured speaker for the second Cultivate Impact series was Bob Schuchts, founder of the John Paul II Healing Center in Tallahassee, Fla., and author of *Be Healed: A Guide to Encountering the Powerful Love of Jesus in Your Life* (Ave Maria Press, 2014).

“Healing is an ongoing encounter with God’s love that brings us into wholeness and communion,” he explained.

“Think about the little girl that Jesus brought back to life,” Schuchts said. “Think how joyful her parents were and how their faith in God might have been restored.”

He encouraged children to “believe everything in the Bible, including the healings.”



A family lays their hands on each other in prayer as part of a family-focused session on July 19 during the National Eucharistic Congress in Indianapolis. (Photos by Natalie Hoefler)

Schuchts referred to the *Catechism of the Catholic Church*, noting it says “the sacraments are the ‘powers that come from the body of Christ’ to heal us [#1116], and that Jesus is the ‘physician of our souls and bodies’ [#1421], and that he gives his power, especially the sacrament of the Eucharist [#1353].

“Every time we receive Jesus in the Eucharist, we can say, ‘Jesus, heal this part of me that’s dead inside, this part that’s grieving, heal this relationship I have,’ and he answers those prayers. If he’s really, truly present, is there anything he can’t do now that he did back then?”

It might happen as a miracle, or it might happen over time—such as for him and his siblings decades after their parents’ divorce.

“When you lose the love in families, hearts get broken,” said Schuchts. It was only after returning to the sacraments that he and his family experienced healing and peace.

Create a ‘tribe’ to ‘life with’

At the Cultivate Impact Session on July 20, Damon and Melanie Owens spoke about the communal relationship of families and the need for families to create “tribes” of like-minded families to “life with.”

The couple of 31 years and parents of eight are the

co-founders of the Joy Ever After marriage and family ministry.

“When we don’t find others to share with, we turn in to ourselves,” said Damon. “I invite you to consider that just as your wedding was a community event, the forming of our children and growing in holiness is also essentially communal.”

For that reason, he said, “It’s essential to build a tribe, those families you can trust to share in forming your children, your family with.”

“Yes, kids provide opportunities to meet families with other kids. But it’s about finding those who really share your faith, your values and mission, and making the decision to share with them.”

It isn’t necessary for each person in each family to connect perfectly, Damon continued.

“Each family complements a different part of your family,” he said. “With some families, the dads may click, or the mothers or the children.”

Melanie cautioned moms, especially in homeschooling families, to find a “collective of women to open up your heart with, where you can trust and support each other.”

“I wanted Damon to fulfill me and make me happy, especially after I’d been with the kids all day. But I needed to form a collective of women to do that. That helps create better families.” †



Father Leo Patalinghug demonstrates a ninja move—and correlates it to prayer—as part of a family-focused session on July 18 during the National Eucharistic Congress in Indianapolis.

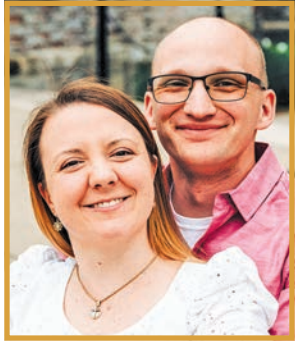
Editor’s Note:

(Editor’s note: Twice a year, *The Criterion* offers a special Marriage Supplement announcing recent engagements and weddings submitted to the newspaper,

accompanied by marriage-related articles. For more information on the archdiocesan Office of Marriage and Family Life, go to marriageandfamily.archindy.org.) †

Wedding Announcements

Aikman-Kurtz



Andrea Marie Aikman and Glenn Michael Kurtz were married on Aug. 16 at Our Lady of Lourdes Church in Indianapolis. The bride is the daughter of Jean Adams. The groom is the son of Deborah and the late Randall Kurtz.

Deitz-Perez



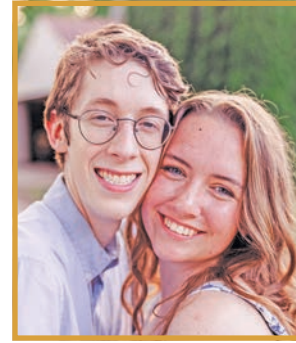
Rita Anne Deitz and Abner O'Connell Perez were married on June 29 at St. Joan of Arc Church in Indianapolis. The bride is the daughter of Greg, Sr., and Joyce Deitz. The groom is the son of Rob and Nikki Perez.

Lawrie-Moore



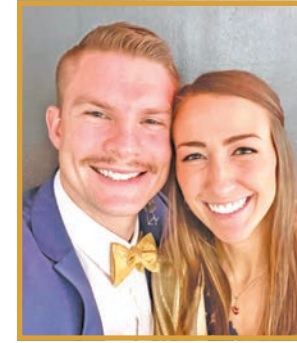
Anna Marie Lawrie and Matthew David Moore will be married on Oct. 4 at Sacred Heart of Jesus Church in Indianapolis. The bride is the daughter of Judd and Wendy Lawrie. The groom is the son of David and Laura Moore.

Murrey-Griffin



Emily Kathryn Elizabeth Murrey and Kyle Joseph Griffin will be married on Oct. 11 at St. Thomas More Church in Mooresville. The bride is the daughter of Andrew and Krista Murrey. The groom is the son of John and Amy Griffin.

Schmitt-Nield



Kelly Marie Mary Schmitt and Joseph Timothy Maximilian Nield will be married on Dec. 7 at St. Joan of Arc Church in Indianapolis. The bride is the daughter of Donald and Lisa Schmitt. The groom is the son of David and the late Barbara Nield.

Soto García-Becerril



Cristela Soto García and Francisco Becerril will be married on Sept. 21 at St. Patrick Church in Indianapolis. The bride is the daughter of Ramiro Soto and Julia García. The groom is the son of Javier Becerril and Lourdes Hernández.

Andrews-Schaeper



Samantha Nicole Andrews and David William Schaeper will be married on Dec. 7 at St. Michael the Archangel Church in Indianapolis. The bride is the daughter of Stephen and Jamie Andrews. The groom is the son of Robert and Mary Anne Schaeper.

Elliott-Phelan



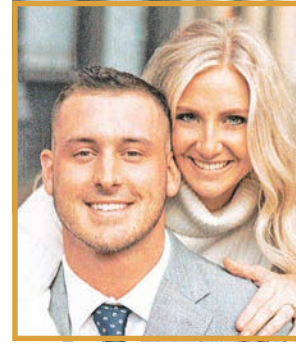
Emily Meryl Elliott and Patrick Joseph Phelan were married on Aug. 17 at St. Barnabas Church in Indianapolis. The bride is the daughter of Brooks and Sheila Elliott. The groom is the son of Joseph and Julie Phelan.

Malloy-Stone



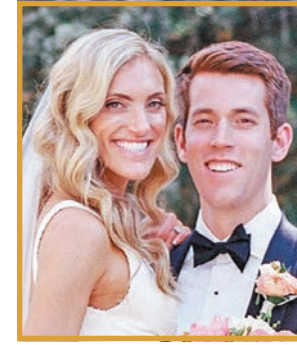
Allison K. Malloy and Nathan Anthony Stone were married on Aug. 17 at Holy Spirit at Geist Church in Fishers, Ind. (Diocese of Lafayette). The bride is the daughter of Mitch and Deb Malloy. The groom is the son of Trent and Melanie Stone.

Naville-Orth



Ann Marie Naville and Ryan Orth will be married on Nov. 16 at St. Mary Church in New Albany. The bride is the daughter of Daryl and Phyllis Naville. The groom is the son of Jeff and Gretchen Orth.

Schueth-Hauser



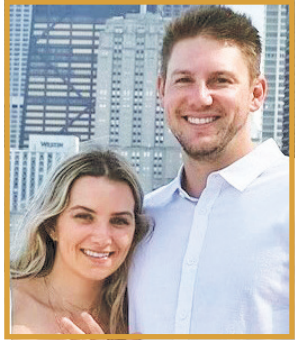
Elizabeth Ann Schueth and Jeffrey Hauser were married on June 15 at St. Simon the Apostle Church in Indianapolis. The bride is the daughter of John and Theresa Schueth. The groom is the son of Mark and Andrea Hauser.

Stone-Wright



Anna Marie Stone and Griffin Lee Wright will be married on Oct. 19 at Holy Spirit at Geist Church in Fishers, Ind. (Diocese of Lafayette). The bride is the daughter of Trent and Melanie Stone. The groom is the son of Richard and Cheryl Wright.

Artz-Davis



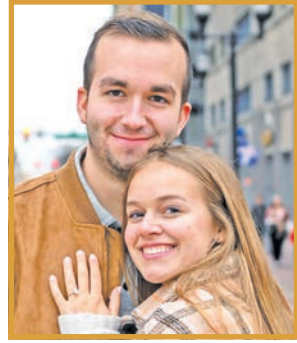
Danielle Marie Artz and William Connor Davis will be married on Aug. 30 at St. Luke the Evangelist Church in Indianapolis. The bride is the daughter of Sean and Beth Artz. The groom is the son of Rick and Julie Davis.

Hayhurst-Mates



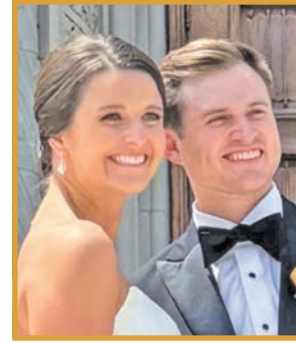
Ellen Marie Hayhurst and Michael George Mates IV will be married on Sept. 28 at SS. Mary and John Church in Evansville, Ind. (Diocese of Evansville). The bride is the daughter of David and Debbie Hayhurst. The groom is the son of Michael III and Laura Mates.

McCalip-Fricker



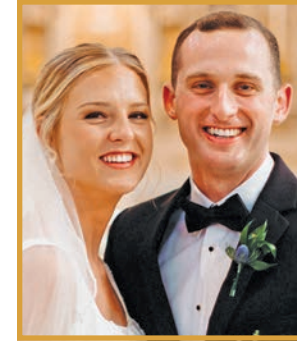
Ella Marie McCalip and Evan Matthew Fricker will be married on Nov. 30 at Our Lady of the Most Holy Rosary Church in Indianapolis. The bride is the daughter of Mike and Marianne McCalip. The groom is the son of Mark and Diane Fricker.

Nickerson-Zirille



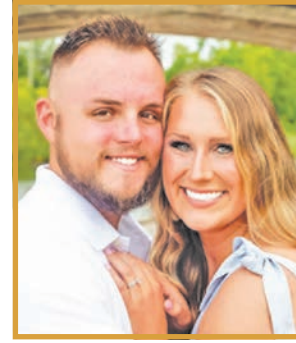
Sarah Catherine Nickerson and Joseph Christian Zirille were married on July 27 at St. John the Evangelist Church in Indianapolis. The bride is the daughter of Scott and Catherine Nickerson. The groom is the son of Anthony and Joy Zirille.

Shafer-Cozzens



Olivia Ann Shafer and Paul Anthony Cozzens were married on April 13 at SS. Mary and John Church in Evansville, Ind. (Diocese of Evansville). The bride is the daughter of Matthew and Cheryl Shafer. The groom is the son of Chris and Charlene Cozzens.

Taylor-Johnson



Jamison Marie Taylor and Clayton Michael Johnson will be married on Oct. 5 at SS. Francis and Clare of Assisi Church in Greenwood. The bride is the daughter of Michael and Jennifer Taylor. The groom is the son of Christian and Rebecca Johnson.

Bowman-Key



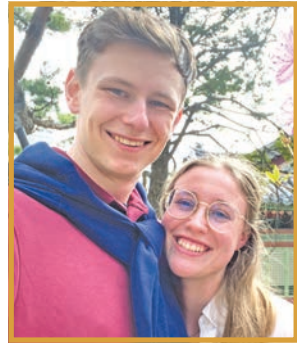
Megan Beth Bowman and Patrick Michael Key will be married on Sept. 21, at St. Joan of Arc Church in Indianapolis. The bride is the daughter of Russell and Stephanie Bowman. The groom is the son of Jamie and Barbara Key.

Hollingsworth-Ludwig



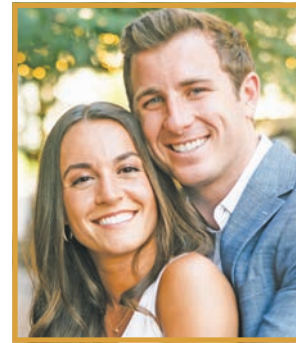
Claire Lynne Hollingsworth and Stetson Mark Ludwig will be married on Aug. 24 at the Sisters of St. Francis Chapel in Oldenburg. The bride is the daughter of Steven and Aimee Hollingsworth. The groom is the son of Jeff and Missy Ludwig.

McFarland-Florian



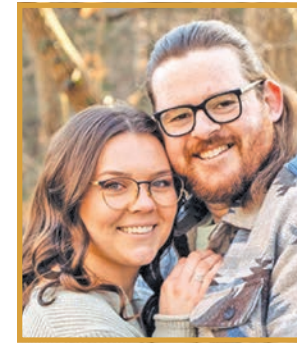
Lena Sophia McFarland and Robert Blain Florian will be married on Oct. 11 at Our Lady of the Most Holy Rosary Church in Indianapolis. The bride is the daughter of Karl and Ursula McFarland. The groom is the son of Sandy Florian and Christine Baker.

Page-Hannon



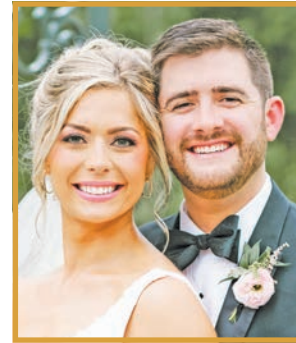
Isabella Rose Page and David Jerome Hannon will be married on Oct. 12 at St. Joan of Arc Church in Indianapolis. The bride is the daughter of Paul and Holly Page. The groom is the son of Mark and Alice Hannon.

Siler-Foster



Mary Claire Siler and Collyn Micheal Foster will be married on Oct. 19 at St. Matthew the Apostle Church in Indianapolis. The bride is the daughter of David and Catherine Siler. The groom is the son of Stephen and Deborah Foster.

Wilmes-Orr



Carolyn Elisabeth Wilmes and Matthew Dale Orr were married on April 27 at St. Joan of Arc Church in Indianapolis. The bride is the daughter of Jeff and Laurie Wilmes. The groom is the son of Joe and Tonia Orr.

Brezette-Vogelgesang



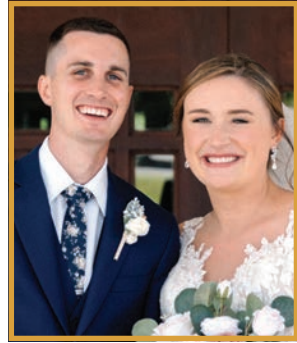
Jody Kathleen Brezette and Timothy Ellis Vogelgesang were married on June 14 at Sacred Heart of Jesus Church in Indianapolis. The bride is the daughter of Joanne and the late W. Francis Brezette. The groom is the son of Philip and Ruth Vogelgesang.

Isaacs-Plager



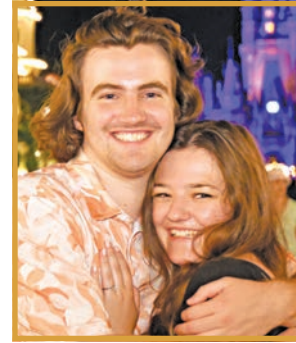
Lauren Isaacs and Charlie Plager will be married on Sept. 14 at St. John the Evangelist Church in Indianapolis. The bride is the daughter of Fritz and Lisa Isaacs. The groom is the son of David and Martha Plager.

Messmer-Birk



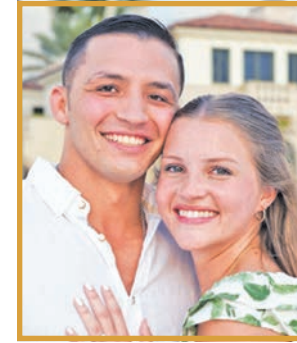
Andrea Michele Messmer and Michael Tyler Birk were married on June 7 at St. Mary-of-the-Knobs Church in Floyd County. The bride is the daughter of Ray and Charlotte Messmer. The groom is the son of Allen and Lisa Birk.

Ready-Davignon



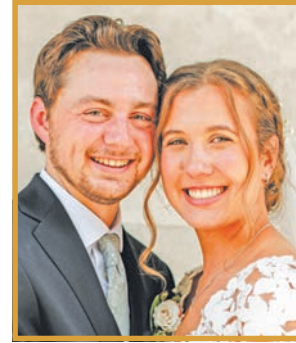
Kaitlyn Mackenzie Messmer and William Henry Davignon will be married on Dec. 28 at SS. Francis and Clare of Assisi Church in Greenwood. The bride is the daughter of Jeffrey and Amy Ready. The groom is the son of Robert and Lora Davignon.

Smith-Venezia



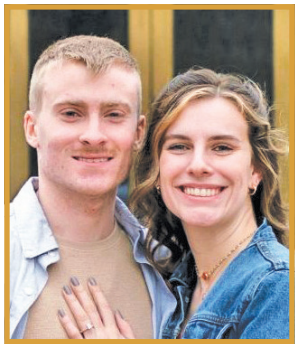
Madeline Elizabeth Smith and Michael Anthony Venezia will be married on Sept. 14 at Our Lady of the Most Holy Rosary Church in Indianapolis. The bride is the daughter of Craig and Leigh Smith. The groom is the son of John and Michelle Venezia.

Wood-Johnston



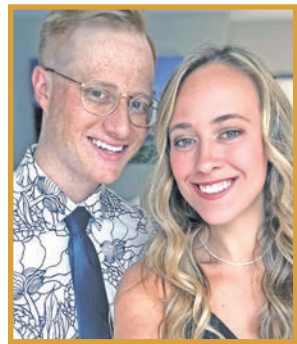
Rachel Caroline Wood and Christopher Spencer Johnston were married on Aug. 3 at St. Joan of Arc Church in Indianapolis. The bride is the daughter of Dennis and Carolyn Wood. The groom is the son of Chris and Lynn Johnston.

Davis-Kellams



Sarah Therese Davis and Jacob Derrell Kellams were married on Aug. 17 at the Church of the Immaculate Conception at Saint Mary-of-the-Woods in St. Mary-of-the-Woods. The bride is the daughter of Chad and Elizabeth Davis. The groom is the son of John and Cheryl Kellams.

Kumpf-Ross



McKenzi Nicole Kumpf and Pierce Michael Ross will be married on Oct. 12 at Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary Church in Brazil. The bride is the daughter of Kevin and Romala Kumpf. The groom is the son of Ryan and Cara Dal Sasso Ross.

Miller-Bean



Dr. Kristin A. Miller and Dr. Francis J. Bean will be married on Oct. 12 at St. John the Evangelist Church in Indianapolis. The bride is the daughter of Rollin Setterdahl and the late Marilyn Nelson. The groom is the son of the late Edward and Dorothy Bean.

Couples may announce engagement or marriage next spring in *The Criterion*

Engagement announcements will be published in a February issue of *The Criterion* for couples planning to marry between Jan. 31 and July 4, 2025, in a marriage that is recognized by the Church as a valid sacramental or valid natural marriage.

Submissions may also be sent by couples who wed in a marriage as described above between Aug. 9, 2024, and Jan. 31, 2025, if they did not publish their engagement in *The Criterion*.

The wedding announcement form is available online at cutt.ly/CriterionWeddings.

An engagement or wedding photo may be sent to alewis@archindy.org. Digital photos must be clear, high-resolution images with the couple close together. Photos can also be mailed to Ann Lewis, 1400 N. Meridian St., Indianapolis, IN, 46202. To receive the photo back, include a self-addressed, stamped envelope. Due to print quality, Xerox copies of photos will not be accepted. †



Apostolate helps married couples grow in faith, develop supportive community

By Natalie Hoefler

The word “domestic” issues a calm vibe, one of tameness and order.

Sometimes, family life can seem far from that ideal with its busy schedules, sibling tiffs and moments of chaos.

Yet the Second Vatican Council’s “*Lumen Gentium*” (“Light of the Nations”) refers to the family as the “domestic Church” (#11).

The term has nothing to do with being perfect or ideal. Rather, the phrase acknowledges the truth that the family is where we first learn who God is, how he loves us, how to love and serve him and how to seek his will.

That might sound like a tall order. But an experience available at the National Eucharistic Congress in July provided ideas and actions to help families fulfill their mission as the domestic Church.

It was offered by an online ministry called CatholicHOM (“HOM” is pronounced “home” and stands for Households on Mission), founded by Lisa and Greg Popcak. Its mission is “helping Catholic families encounter Christ more meaningfully at home and draw closer to each other” by living out what it calls the “Liturgy of the Domestic Church Life.”

That liturgy—or way of worshipping God—can be broken down into three actions.

The first involves family members showing Christ’s love to each other every day—even when doing so might be difficult.

Next is developing family “rituals” in four areas: working, playing, talking and praying. The key here is that these practices be shared together as a family to cultivate bonds and instill values.

Finally, families are called to share Christ’s love through service to each other and to those outside of the family.

Parents and children had the chance to practice these concepts at the congress’ CatholicHOM experience.

At one station, families moved forward together through five stops. At each stop, one person shared something another family member did that made them feel loved.

Anu Varghese of the Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston, Texas, smiled when asked what was shared in her family at this station.

“I asked my little girl when she feels loved the most, and she said she feels loved when I hug her,” Anu said.

Next, families played a game creating a puzzle with four pieces, listing on each piece one way their family works, plays, talks or prays together.

One mom prompted her young son regarding the “work” piece: “What do you help me do in the



Anu and Thomson Varghese pray a family prayer with their children as part of a CatholicHOM experience on July 19 during the National Eucharist Congress in Indianapolis. The Vargheses live in the Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston, Texas. (Photos by Natalie Hoefler)

kitchen?” His look of concentration changed to one of revelation as he said, “Load the dishwasher!” They also noted praying a family rosary, sitting on his bed and talking before he’s tucked in for the night, and taking garden vegetables to their neighbors.

A sign at a third station noted that “we reign with Christ when we serve with Christ.” Family members each made a paper sash with their name and words or pictures describing ways they help or serve each other and those outside the home.

The final station invited participants to take a few quiet moments to pray a prepared family commitment prayer together.

Standing next to her husband and their four children, Jacinta Eickholt of the Diocese of Toledo, Ohio, said she appreciated CatholicHOM’s “explanations of the faith and basics of the faith, especially about the domestic Church and how we can live our faith at home.

“It was a good reminder of the things that we do every day and can do every day, and actually verbalizing them. I think that’s helpful and makes [living the faith as a family] more real.”

(CatholicHOM offers material through a digital app. For more information, go to catholicom.com. For a list of suggestions on how to build your family into a domestic Church, go to cutt.ly/USCCBDomesticChurch.) †



Matt and Jacinta Eickholt pose with their four children after enjoying the CatholicHOM experience on July 19 during the National Eucharist Congress in Indianapolis. The family lives in the Diocese of Toledo, Ohio.



A family creates a puzzle listing how they work, play, talk and pray together as part of a CatholicHOM experience on July 19 during the National Eucharist Congress in Indianapolis.

Pre-Cana Retreats, Tobit Weekend and One in Christ program prepare engaged couples for marriage

Criterion staff report

Three marriage preparation programs offered in the archdiocese—the Pre-Cana Conference, Tobit Weekend and One in Christ—help prepare engaged couples for the sacrament of marriage as well as the challenges of married life.

Early registration is recommended for all programs, as each fills up quickly.

Pre-Cana Retreats cover skills for marriage, a catechesis on the sacrament of marriage and an introduction to the science and morals behind natural family planning. They are offered in English in Indianapolis and New Albany, and in Spanish in Columbus. The upcoming Pre-Cana Retreats are as follows:

Indianapolis—Sept. 21-22 at Archbishop Edward T. O’Meara Catholic Center, 1400 N. Meridian St., 8:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m. each day, \$200 per couple. More information and registration are available at cutt.ly/IndyPreCana2024.

Tobit Weekend retreats take place at Our Lady of Fatima Retreat House, 5353 E. 56th St., in Indianapolis, and are offered in English. The cost is \$330, which includes program materials, meals, snacks and two rooms for two nights.

The next retreat will take place on Jan. 17-19, 2025.

Registration is available at www.archindy.org/fatima/calendar/tobit.html. For registration questions, contact Lisa Coons at lcoons@archindy.org or 317-545-7681. For more information about the program and its contents, contact Jennifer Burger at jburger@archindy.org or 317-545-7681, ext. 106.

One in Christ marriage preparation, which includes a medical panel to address questions on reproduction and fertility, is a three-day program spanning a weekend and the following Saturday. On Saturdays, the program runs from 8 a.m.-5 p.m., and on Sunday it runs from 9:30 a.m.-5 p.m. The cost is \$399 per couple, which covers meals and materials. Scholarships are available for those with financial difficulty.

There are three upcoming One in Christ opportunities:

—Oct. 5, 6 and 19 at St. Elizabeth Seton Parish, 10655 Haverstick Road, in Carmel, Ind. (Lafayette Diocese).

—Jan. 4, 5 and 18, 2025, at St. Elizabeth Seton Parish.

—Feb. 15, 16 and March 8, 2025, St. Elizabeth Seton Parish.

To register, go to oicmarriage.org/seminar-info. For more information call 317-600-5629, e-mail info@OICIndy.com or go to oicmarriage.org.

Live retreats offer an invaluable experience for engaged couples and are the expected formation option.

However, for couples who experience significant difficulties attending a live retreat, including but not limited to preparing for marriage while out of state or country, being deployed in the armed forces or inflexible shift work at a hospital or factory, the online and self-paced Joy-Filled Marriage course ensures that no one misses out on valuable and comprehensive marriage formation. It is available in English and Spanish, and the cost is \$105.

For more information or to register, go to cutt.ly/IndyPreCana2024. †