

Marriage is the COMPLETE GIVING of oneself to another

Topics Covered:

Session 1: A Mission to Love

Session 2: Being One

Session 3: Forgiveness & Life-long Union

Session 4: Knowing Me, Knowing You

Session 5: Sex: Sacred Embrace

Session 6: Spirituality: Soul Mates for Life

The sessions are conducted over a 6-8 week period and preferably once a week. Adjustments to the schedule may be arranged with the individual mentoring couple but should not be stretched out too long.

Who We Are

With a total of over 175 married years, we are a team of 5 volunteer couples committed to protecting the institution of marriage. Through mentoring engaged couples and by sharing our personal experiences, we hope to journey with you to build a strong foundation for your marriage.

Louise & Piero Pagliaro (Married for 51 years, with 4 children and 9 grandchildren).

Nancy & Johannes Aulia (Married for 31 years, with 2 children)

Gwen & Adrian O'Brien (Married for 18 years, with 3 children)

Mary & Justin Tan
(Married for 27 years, with 6 children)

Pauline & Graham Perrin
(Married for 46 years, with 1 child and 1 grandchild)



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ENGAGED?

CHECK OUT SMART LOVING

Because your marriage matters



Structure of the Sessions

Each engaged couple will be facilitated by a married mentor couple.

Under special circumstances, a small group format may be adopted.

Sessions are conducted at the mentor couple's home.

Each session lasts for 2 hours.

At the end of the programme, couples will receive a certificate of completion.

Educational Methodology

Storytelling (mentor's personal examples), reading material, audio-visual presentation, reflection exercises and skills are employed. Self-directed Take Home Activities Inventory-style exercises
Skills training and practical tools
Experiential exercises

The Mentoring Couples' thoughts on marriage ...

Marriage is "Hard work but rewarding". We are looking forward to accompanying you and your future spouse in your journey to become husband and wife. (Nancy & Johannes Aulia)

Our marriage is built on teamwork, *respect*, a healthy dose of admiration, a never-ending portion of forgiveness and unconditional love for each other. Above all, a deep burning desire to serve God before everything else. (Gwen & Adrian O'Brien)

We see marriage as a Sacrament in which we made a Sacred Promise to each other to love one another for the rest of our lives. Mutual love and respect and giving support to each other has created a feeling of wellbeing, fulfilment and security. We have experienced a companionship that has grown for the last 51 years into a deep, intimate and abiding relationship. (Louise & Piero Pagliaro)

Our marriage has brought us great fulfilment and joy. As in all things precious, we have had to work at it and allow our relationship and love to mature. There will always be some difficult days but we are committed to making our marriage last and to have God walking together with us. (Mary & Justin Tan)

Back in 1969 in keeping with the times, we married young. We were in love and understood that we were making a commitment to each other and before God that would last as long as we lived. In the years that followed we have had many joys and trials. We are still in love and have a small family. Our marriage remains strong and this we attribute to God's grace in giving us the willingness to go on learning and growing with each other and the faith in God to cope with whatever life presents to us. It will be our privilege to share the journey with engaged couples as they prepare for marriage. (*Pauline & Graham Perrin*)



Cost:

- \$100 per couple for the couple workbooks and other costs.
- Payment (cheque/direct bank transfer)
 should be made at the time of registration.
- Cheques should be made payable to "St Christopher's Parish".

Registration:

Please complete the attached registration form and enclose it in an envelope.

For surface mail:

- Mail the completed registration form and payment to St Christopher's Church, 5 Doon Avenue, Glen Waverley (3150) or leave it at the Church Presbytery.
- Attention to: Engage Mentoring Programme