

# HOLY SPIRIT CATHOLIC CHURCH

## PARISH MISSION

"To be the light to our World by: Praying and Celebrating as a Eucharistic Community, serving those in need with unconditional love & generosity".

## PARISH VISION

"To be a welcoming, multi-cultural and multi-generational Roman Catholic Faith Community, rooted in Scripture and Tradition, nourished by the Sacraments and empowered by the Holy Spirit to be the light to our world by: Praying and celebrating as a Eucharistic Community, Instructing children and adults in the Catechism of the Catholic Church, Serving the less fortunate with unconditional love & generosity and protecting human life in all its stages."

## TWENTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

August 14, 2022

# HE ENDURED THE CROSS,

despising its shame,  
and has taken his seat at the  
right of the throne of God.



Hebrews 12:2

### MASS TIMES

|           |  |
|-----------|--|
| Monday    | 8:30am                                     |
| Tuesday   | 8:30am                                     |
| Wednesday | 7:00pm with Novena of the Miraculous Medal |
| Thursday  | 8:30am                                     |
| Friday    | 8:30am                                     |
| Saturday  | 5:00pm Vigil Mass                          |
| Sunday    | 8:30am & 11:00am                           |

### CONFESSIONS

|           |               |
|-----------|---------------|
| Wednesday | 6:20pm-6:50pm |
| Saturday  | 4:00pm-4:50pm |

### ADORATION

|                     |               |
|---------------------|---------------|
| Mon, Tue, Thur, Fri | 9:00am-3:00pm |
| Wed                 | 9:00am-7:00pm |

### CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

11665 Fort Caroline Rd Jacksonville, FL 32225  
Monday-Friday 9:00AM-4:30PM  
P: (904) 641-7244  
F: (904) 641-7266

### CONTACT US

[www.holyspiritchurchjax.org](http://www.holyspiritchurchjax.org)  
[info@holyspiritchurchjax.org](mailto:info@holyspiritchurchjax.org)



## SERVICE MINISTRY CONTACT

|                                |                         |                               |
|--------------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Adoration                      | Ben & Perlita Lipat     | 904-236-0439                  |
| Altar Servers                  | Alice De Leon           | 904-710-5640                  |
| Altar Society                  | Linda Davis             | 904-329-2714                  |
| Angels of Mercy                | Kathie Garrett          | 904-565-1859                  |
| Annulments                     | Ann & Tim Hergenroether | 904-591-8004                  |
| Bible Study                    | Ron Coleman             | 904-234-4743                  |
| Choir-Saturday 5pm             | Phil Militante          | 904-620-8841                  |
| Choir-Sunday 8:30am            | Bob Vigliano            | 904-476-4240                  |
| Choir-Sunday 11:00am           | JoJo Munoz              | 904-422-1764                  |
| Coffee & Donuts Ministry       | Dwayne Stanton          | 321-333-8237                  |
| Elizabeth Ministry             | Jennifer Cabrey         | 904-993-9500                  |
| Grounds                        | Jerry Robichaud         | 904-899-3476                  |
| Healing Prayer Ministry        | Jeff & Vickie Slade     | 904-449-1447                  |
| Hope & Consolation             | Pam Andres              | 904-571-5998                  |
| Hospitality                    | Sandy Coleman           | 904-613-2993                  |
| Knights of Columbus            | John Hartley            | 904-237-7154                  |
| Legion of Mary:                |                         |                               |
| Our Lady of Mystical Rose      | Rose Buchanan           | 321-420-2997                  |
| Our Lady of Undoer of Knots    | Ann Fabre               | 409-658-2229                  |
| Men's Club                     | Dave Garrett            | 904-565-1859                  |
| Mother's Ministry              | Jasmine Dinh            | 904-524-0883                  |
| Offertory Counting Cmte.       | Diane Davis             | 904-641-7244                  |
| Prayer Blanket Ministry        | Kathy Lehane            | 904-477-0808                  |
| Quilts for Vets                | Diane St. Laurent       | 904-220-9199                  |
| Religious Store                | Kathie Garrett          | 904-565-1859                  |
| Respect Life Coordinator       | Joey Sims               | 615-653-8965                  |
| Rosary Ministry                | Marti Pounder           | 904-553-5205                  |
| Scouts-Boys & Cubs             | Linda Byer              | 904-483-6113                  |
| Society of Divine Mercy        | Fred Althoff            | 904-229-7604                  |
| St. Paul Street Evangelization | Susan Riker             | 904-610-0649                  |
| St. Vincent de Paul Society:   | Hector Soto             | 904-962-0922                  |
| St. Vincent de Paul Society:   | Help Center             | 904-312-3242                  |
| Website                        | Regin Varghese          | regin@holyspiritchurchjax.org |
| Wine & Cheese                  | Maria Cartolano         | 904-610-5674                  |

## SACRAMENTS

### SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

**Baptism Class — Registration required:** Classes are held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of every month at 7:00pm in the FLC. You **MUST** be registered parishioner for at least 6 months.

Baptisms — 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday after the 11:00am Mass.

### SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Wednesday — 6:20pm & Saturday — 4:00pm or by appointment

### SACRAMENT OF ANOINTING OF THE SICK

If you or your loved one is in need of the Sacrament of Anointing, please call the Parish Office at any time. We also have dedicated Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion to bring Holy Communion to the sick and the homebound.

### SACRAMENT OF HOLY MATRIMONY

Couples must contact Father Amar & Cheryl Bergman at least six months in advance.

## PARISH STAFF

### Pastor

Fr. Amar Nagothu, MSFS amamsmfs@holyspiritchurchjax.org

### Deacon

Patrick Goin pgoin@holyspiritchurchjax.org

### Deacon

Ed Prisby ed.prisby@holyspiritchurchjax.org

### Deacon

Ray Stiles rstiles@holyspiritchurchjax.org

### Business Manager

Jim Davis jedd1803@aol.com

### Office Manager

Vickie Slade vslade@holyspiritchurchjax.org

### Receptionist

Alexa Grayson agrayson@holyspiritchurchjax.org

### Director of Religious Education

Maribel Hernandez mhernandez@holyspiritchurchjax.org

### Youth Ministry

Virginia Kell vkell@holyspiritchurchjax.org

### Communications Director

Armon Antolin jaantolin@holyspiritchurchjax.org

## PARISH COUNCIL

### Parish Finance Council

Nick Winiewicz 904-220-3650

### Parish Pastoral Council

Gwen Scott 904-626-5961

### Parish Stewardship Council

Ron Coleman ron-coleman@comcast.net

## LITURGICAL MINISTRIES

### Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion

Todd & Kathy Nennich todd.nennich@gmail.com

### Lectors

Kammy Cenicerros kcenicerros.hsjax@gmail.com

### Sacristan

Joyce Dyess 904-641-7244

### Ushers

John DeLeon jag\_02109\_1999@yahoo.com

### Wedding Coordinator

Cheryl Bergman clbergman@comcast.net



## HOLY SPIRIT CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Pre-K - 8th grade

P: 904.642.9165 | F: 904.642.1047

### Principal

Dr. John Luciano Dr.Luciano@hscatholicsschool.com

### Office Manager/Assistant to the Principal

Kim Klapkowski kklapkowski@hscatholicsschool.com

### School Secretary office assistant

Ronda Lagow rlagow@hscatholicsschool.com

### Bookkeeper

Norren Bennett nbennett@hscatholicsschool.com

### BULLETIN SUBMISSIONS

For any possible submissions to the bulletin, please email them to [bulletin@holyspiritchurchjax.org](mailto:bulletin@holyspiritchurchjax.org) by the preceding Monday.

When sending photos, please send the highest quality possible. For other media such as flyers, please send editable files, if possible. When sending multiple files, please send in a zip folder. Thank you.

# THIS WEEK AT Holy Spirit

## Sun August 14

Mass—8:30am, 11:00am  
Bible Study—9:30am (FLC and Zoom)  
Coffee & Donuts—9:30am (FLC)

## Mon August 15

Mass—8:30am, 7:00pm  
Legion of Mary, Mystical Rose Praesidium—5:00pm (FLC)

## Tue August 16

Mass—8:30am  
Funeral for George Jackson—11:00pm

## Wed August 17

Quilting for Vets—9:30am (FLC)  
Legion of Mary, Our Lady of Undoer of Knots—1:00pm  
Confessions—6:20pm  
Mass—7:00pm

## Thu August 18

Mass—8:30am

## Fri August 19

Mass—8:30am  
Children's Choir Practice—4:00pm (church)  
Adult's Choir Practice—5:00pm (church)

## Sat August 20

Prayer Blanket Meeting—9:00am (FLC)  
Confessions—4:00pm  
Mass—5:00pm

## Sun August 21

Mass—8:30am, 11:00am  
Bible Study—9:30am (FLC and Zoom)  
Pancake Breakfast—9:30am (FLC)  
Youth Group—12:00pm (gym)



### PRAYER REQUESTS

If you would like to submit specific Prayer request to Fr. Amar, please email to:

[amarmsfs@holyspiritchurchjax.org](mailto:amarmsfs@holyspiritchurchjax.org)



|            |        |         |   |
|------------|--------|---------|---|
| <b>Sat</b> | Aug 13 | 5:00pm  | + Deceased members of Romero family<br>By: Doris Herrero              |
| <b>Sun</b> | Aug 14 | 8:30am  | For John & Marcia Scheeter's Anniversary                              |
|            |        | 11:00am | For Holy Spirit Parishioners  |
| <b>Mon</b> | Aug 15 | 8:30am  | For Fr. Amar's Intentions<br>By: Judy Broom                           |
|            |        | 7:00pm  | + Baby Colton Manning   |
| <b>Tue</b> | Aug 16 | 8:30am  | For Fr. Tom & Fr. Anthony<br>By: Chris & Larry Freeman                |
| <b>Wed</b> | Aug 17 | 7:00pm  | + John & Kate Bortolatti<br>By: Lucille Matranga                      |
| <b>Thu</b> | Aug 18 | 8:30am  | + Allan DeLeon<br>By: Family  |
| <b>Fri</b> | Aug 19 | 8:30am  | + Dollete Ajoc<br>By: Catherine Whyte                                 |
| <b>Sat</b> | Aug 20 | 5:00pm  | + Judy Slade  |
| <b>Sun</b> | Aug 21 | 8:30am  | For Holy Spirit Parishioners  |
|            |        | 11:00am | For Christine & Christian Ben-Oduro's Birthdays<br>By: Brian Chambers |

### READINGS FOR THE WEEK

|                                   |  |
|-----------------------------------|--|
| <b>Monday: 8/15</b>               | Rv 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab<br>1 Cor 15:20-27<br>Lk 1:39-56 |
| <b>Tuesday: 8/16</b>              | Ez 28:1-10<br>Mt 19:23-30                                |
| <b>Wednesday: 8/17</b>            | Ez 34:1-11<br>Mt 20:1-16                                 |
| <b>Thursday: 8/18</b>             | Ez 36:23-28<br>Mt 22:1-14                                |
| <b>Friday: 8/19</b>               | Ez 37:1-14<br>Mt 22:34-40                                |
| <b>Saturday/Sunday: 8/20-8/21</b> | Is 66:18-21<br>Heb 12:5-7, 11-13<br>Lk 13:22-30          |

# STEWARDSHIP

# ADORATION



## Sacrificial Offering For Aug 7, 2022

|  |             |
|--|-------------|
| Offertory  | \$16,880.00 |
| FLC Pledge   | \$1,899.00  |
| Emergency Fund                                     | \$175.00    |
| School   | \$80.00     |
| Online Giving                                      | \$2,168.00  |
| 2nd Collection: Black and Native American Missions | \$2,534.00  |

**Thank you for your constant generosity in taking care of our Holy Spirit Parish!**

Being a steward means that one:

- ⇒ Receives God's gifts gratefully
- ⇒ Cherishes and tends God's gifts responsibly
- ⇒ Shares God's gifts in love and justice
- ⇒ Returns God's gifts with increase.

Please consider making a one-time gift or sign up for recurring e-giving to help support our Parish.

**Donate online:**  
Text the word **"GIVE"** to **501-273-3327** Or follow the QR code:



## Daily Adoration

We are in need of Eucharistic adorers.

If you are in position to commit to a specific day or hour, or could be a substitute, please call or text any of the following coordinators:

|                                 |                       |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------|
| <b>Mon: Lorraine Allaire</b>    | <b>(904) 477-6820</b> |
| <b>Tue: Diane Davis</b>         | <b>(904) 200-5915</b> |
| <b>Wed: Susan Riker</b>         | <b>(904) 610-0649</b> |
| <b>Thu: Dorothy Dobrovich</b>   | <b>(904) 238-5363</b> |
| <b>Fri: Ben or Perla Lipat</b>  | <b>(904) 236-0439</b> |
| <b>40 Hour: Catherine Whyte</b> | <b>(602) 318-6147</b> |

Daily Adoration:

**Mon, Tue, Thur, Fri. 9am to 3pm, Wednesday 9am to 7pm— Divine Mercy Chaplet is prayed, followed by Benediction Daily at 3pm.**

This will be from Monday to Friday, except on holidays. Come at any day or hour to adore our Lord in the Most Holy Sacrament

We are also having 40 hour devotions once a month. This will run concurrently with our weekday adoration and beyond. We start at **11:00pm on the 2nd Wednesday of every month until 3:00pm that Friday**, encompassing both the Thursday and Friday Masses. After 4:00pm, access to the church will be through the code-enabled door of our adoration room.

Come and spend an hour or two with our Eucharistic Lord! It is an excellent opportunity for our parishioners unable to adore during the day.



# PRAYERS FOR THE DEAD

Let's pray for those in our Holy Spirit community that have passed away recently:

Leonido Beltran  
Walter Slezak

Baby Colton Manning  
George Jackson

If you have a loved one that has recently passed away during this month, please call the church office to let us know so that we may include them in our list of prayer.



*Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them.*

*May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.*

*Amen.*



# FELLOWSHIP AND PRAYER



*Education Registration*

Classes start on Sunday,

**August 28th!**

## REGISTRATION IS OPEN

Forms are available in the church office or website

*For questions or more information, please contact Mrs. Hernandez @ (904) 641-7244, (904) 5918071 or [mhernandez@holyspiritchurchjax.org](mailto:mhernandez@holyspiritchurchjax.org)*

### The Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults (RCIA)

- ✓ Do you or someone you know want to learn more about becoming Catholic?
- ✓ Were you baptized Catholic but haven't received the sacraments of Penance, Holy Communion or Confirmation?
- ✓ Are you a fully initiated Catholic who is just interested in learning more about your Catholic faith?

If you said YES to any of these questions, classes to help you on that journey will begin on Sunday, August 28, 2022, with an important orientation session from 9:00 AM – 10:30 AM in Room 109 of the Family Life Center.

For more information about this process, please contact Deacon Ed Prisby @ (904) 641-7244 or [ed.prisby@holyspiritchurchjax.org](mailto:ed.prisby@holyspiritchurchjax.org).

Registration available on:

<https://holyspiritchurchjax.org/rcia-registration/>



**YOUR JOURNEY INTO THE  
CATHOLIC FAITH  
STARTS HERE**

**RCIA** RITE OF CHRISTIAN  
INITIATION FOR  
ADULTS

DEACON ED PRISBY  
904-641-7244  
[ED.PRISBY@HOLYSPIRITCHURCHJAX.ORG](mailto:ED.PRISBY@HOLYSPIRITCHURCHJAX.ORG)

**CLASSES BEGIN AUGUST 28, 2022  
HOLY SPIRIT CATHOLIC CHURCH  
FAMILY LIFE CENTER - ROOM 109  
9:00AM - 10:30 AM**

### THE CUPBOARD IS ALMOST BARE AT ST. VINCENT DE PAUL

Last week we told you that requests for help to our St Vincent de Paul office were up 5 fold in a year--- actually I minimized that. We are up 5 fold since just a few months ago! Here are the food items we are TOTALLY OUT of as of Friday July 29:

- Mac & Cheese
- Soup
- Pancake mix
- Oatmeal
- Canned peas (green beans, carrots)
- Canned meat (Spam, corned beef)
- Baked beans
- Dried beans

Thank you for your past and continued generosity in helping us provide for just the BASIC necessities for our neighbors in need. God Bless You!

## Welcome, Alexa!



Alexa Grayson has joined the Parish Staff as our new receptionist!

Alexa is currently a college student majoring in Biochemistry. Alexa and her family have been long time parishioners here at

Holy Spirit. She also plans on continuing her studies to Jacksonville University in Dentistry.

*We extend a warm welcome to Alexa as she joins the Holy Spirit Church staff!*

# AROUND THE PARISH



## DIOCESE OF ST. AUGUSTINE NIGHT



VS.



**SAT. SEPT 10**

Gates: 5 p.m.

First pitch: 6:35 p.m.



<http://www.tinyurl.com/jaxshrimpportal>  
Password: Catholic

*Join us for a night of fellowship and fun at the 121 Financial Ballpark!*



**\$13 Group Tickets or  
\$26 Circle K Deck Tickets**

*Circle K Deck tickets come with an all-you-can-eat buffet of hamburgers, hot dogs, potato chips, cookies, soda and water from 5:30 to 7 p.m.*

*All seats for the game will be in sections 109 - 110*

### **PROMOTIONS:**

***Home Plate Doormat Giveaway to the first 2,000 fans***

*To book you and your family at this same great rate, or for more information, please contact:*

**SCOTT KORNBERG | 904.224.8534 | SCOTT@JAXSHRIMP.COM**



**AFFORDABLE. FAMILY. FUN.**





# FROM OUR PASTOR'S DESK

## JESUS IS AT OUR SIDE:

During the past several Sundays, the Church has presented us with some of the challenges we will face as disciples of Jesus.

We will have to learn to let go of our possessions, and even of our desire to possess. Jesus calls us to be generous, sharing whatever we have with those who are in

need. Last Sunday, we were cautioned to be watchful and ready. Jesus will come to us in ways that will surprise us. And today, Jesus tells us that our efforts to be faithful disciples may cause dissension, even in our families.

All of us would like to believe that following Jesus would lead us to peace. Jesus is telling us very clearly that that may not be the case. We have only to look at Jesus' life. It wasn't the case for him.



Long before Jesus, the prophet Jeremiah suffered because of the message God gave him to deliver to his people. Despite his suffering, Jeremiah continued to call the people to hear God's word to them.

The writer of the Letter to the Hebrews reminds us that we are part of a long tradition of witnesses to God's faithfulness. We are encouraged to persevere in running the race that lies before us, while keeping our eyes fixed on Jesus. Jesus' example is meant to give us hope so that we will persevere. "For the sake of the joy that lay before him, Jesus endured the cross and has taken his seat at the right of the throne of God." (Heb 12: 2)

Keeping our eyes fixed on Jesus each day! That becomes our way to keep focus as we go about our daily living. We ask Jesus to be with us as our strength. We ask him to show us the way to our Father's home through the ups and downs of life.

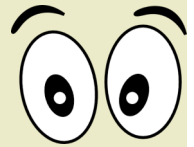
When we keep our eyes fixed on Jesus, when we let him live in us, we can be sure that whatever fire we may have to enter in our life, we will always emerge more purified, like fire-tried gold.



# AROUND OUR PARISH & SCHOOL



## Help Needed!



Holy Spirit School is in need of workers for their After-School Care program.

11:30-3:00 working with 4 year-olds and / or 3:00-6:00 with older students. Must complete background screening.

Pays \$11 per hour. Please email Dr. Luciano for details.

## Thank you!

Holy Spirit School wishes to thank our Knights of Columbus Council for their recent donation of \$1,200 to the Sports Booster Club to help defer the cost of new uniforms for our teams. Many thanks to the Knights for their continued support of our students and staff.

What have been the biggest moments of adversity in our careers?

How did our faith help us through it?

How can we be better prepared to handle future obstacles and find the positives along the way?

Come on out to YCP's **August Panel Discussion**, where we will sit down with three experienced healthcare professionals who will share their unique background and perspective, using the pandemic as an example.

### **PANELISTS:**

**Dr. Brian Gilligan, MD**, *Wolfson Children's Hospital*

**Denise Walker, Nurse Manager**, *Baptist Health*

**Dr. Johanne Belizaire-François MD, MHA, FCCM**,  
*Florida Health Department*



**YOUNG CATHOLIC PROFESSIONALS**  
*Working in Witness for Christ™*

## EXECUTIVE PANEL DISCUSSION

**FAITH THROUGH ADVERSITY**  
STANDING FIRM IN THE FACE OF UNCERTAINTY

Wednesday, August 17 from 7-9pm

St. Paul's Catholic Church - Family Life Center  
523 Pablo Avenue  
Jacksonville Beach, FL 32250

**RSVP: [ycpjax.org/events](http://ycpjax.org/events)**

## WORLDWIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER

Worldwide Marriage Encounter—Refresh your relationship:

- Take a new look at your marriage, priorities and lifestyle.
- Learn simple, effective communication techniques.
- Enhance the love that you share.
- Rediscover your hopes and dreams.

You will benefit if ...

- You want to enrich a good marriage.
- You want to expand and deepen your communication.
- You want to learn to love more deeply.

Sign up today to attend an upcoming Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend on November 4-6, 2022 at St. Stephen Christian Retreat Center in Titusville, FL or 10-12 February 2023 at St. Neumann Retreat Center in Tallahassee, FL.

For more information visit our website at: [wwme.org](http://wwme.org) or e-mail: [Applications@FLCN-wwme.org](mailto:Applications@FLCN-wwme.org).



# AROUND OUR PARISH & SCHOOL



## **A Marriage-Changing Weekend Program Experienced Online from the Comfort of Your Home**

The Virtual Online Retrouvaille Weekend Program may be just what your marriage needs! Spend a weekend focusing on your marriage and learn how to reconnect with each other in the privacy of your own home. Retrouvaille is a marriage program that teaches a way to communicate with your spouse on a feeling level. It will provide encouragement, hope, and practical tools to help rebuild your marriage. You will listen to engaging talks from married couples, just like you, that have navigated the path of reconnecting a disconnected marriage. Then, you privately share guided exercises that allow you to practically apply the concepts you have learned. You will learn powerful communication tools that will help you to stay connected for years to come!

The program begins Thursday evening from 6:30-9:00 pm; Friday from 6:30-9:00 pm; Saturday from 8:30 am – 6:00 pm; and concludes Sunday from 8:30 am – 1:00 pm. There are ample breaks and mealtimes allotted to break up the day. A complete schedule, program materials, and workbooks will be sent to you prior to the weekend.

Retrouvaille (pronounced Retro-vi with a long i) is a non-profit Christian ministry and program costs are affordable. Couples of any faith or no faith basis are welcomed. Most Retrouvaille Weekends are held in hotels or retreat centers with total weekend costs between \$900-\$1,250 per couple. The Virtual Online Weekend Program is offered for only \$199 per couple, which is a considerable savings since there is no added costs for meals and accommodations. You can participate in the full program from the privacy of your own home. A voluntary donation will be asked for at the end of the weekend to cover program costs.

Most couples live in the misery of a struggling marriage for nearly five years before seeking help. Some couples turn to counseling for answers, often with no resolve. Others divorce and end their marriages, while others continue to live in misery for the sake of their children or because they do not believe in divorce. No matter how

difficult your problems may seem, there is help and hope for a better marriage.

**Retrouvaille is a Three-Phase Program:** Retrouvaille is a three-phase program for marriages that helps couples face their marriage challenges in a productive and healthy way. It begins with the online weekend program, followed by online post weekend follow up sessions, and ongoing monthly marriage support offered online, as well. Both husband and wife will need to participate.

### **Phase 1: The Retrouvaille Weekend Experience**

Retrouvaille begins with a weekend experience in which couples are helped to re-establish communication and to gain new insights into themselves as individuals and as a couple. This part of the program is presented by three couples and a clergy member. The presenting team has experienced disillusionment, pain, and conflict in their own lives and offer hope as they share their personal struggles of reconciliation and healing. You and your spouse will find courage and strength in the realization that you are not alone in your struggle. You will not be asked to share your problems with anyone, however, you will be encouraged to put the past behind you and to look beyond the hurt and pain, to rediscover each other in a new and positive way. The Online Virtual Retrouvaille Weekend provides tools to help you with communication, forgiveness, and trust. It teaches a dialogue process of meaningful communication.

### **Phase 2: The Post Weekend Sessions**

A series of follow-up presentations is the next important phase of the Retrouvaille healing process. The hurt and pain of a struggling marriage cannot be healed in a single weekend experience, though it is a positive start. The Online Post sessions include a series of 2-hour talks by additional couples that expand on the Weekend concepts. The Post sessions are offered, over either a 6-week period featuring two talks on Sunday afternoons or 12-week period featuring one talk on a Thursday evening. Most couples, without a doubt, find this to be one of the most productive components of the program and where the most growth occurs.

### **Phase 3: Monthly Support (CORE)**

The final phase is a monthly online small-group support meeting, called CORE (Continuing Our Retrouvaille Experience). It allows for a casual and supportive interaction with other couples who have attended the Retrouvaille program. This monthly meeting continues to reinforce the communication tools learned on the weekend and allows couples to form strong and lasting bonds as they continue to heal their marriages.

# AROUND THE PARISH



**Take time to rediscover each other – to get back to what matters.**

## **“What will we learn?”**

- A communication technique that will be marriage changing
- To express feelings in a way your spouse can better understand
- Work to resolve conflict in healthier, more productive ways
- Forgive freely and completely by rebuilding trust
- Increase your commitment—and your closeness to each other

**Retrouvaille has impacted more marriages and families than any other marriage help program in the world with 80% of attending couples still married five years after attending their weekend. Just a few words from couples that have attended . . .**

*“We thought we were unbreakable. And then we broke. We fell in love. But real life wasn’t far behind, and addiction nearly tore us apart. Our Retrouvaille Weekend taught us to invest in each other and work to strengthen our marriage—no matter how unfixable our problems seemed. We learned tools to help us to better communicate and with God’s help, we were able to put our marriage back together. We are a living miracle.”*



*“We looked like the perfect couple. But the reality of our marriage was very different. We were headed down a path of divorce. Our house was built on a foundation of anger.*

*Irreconcilable differences. Constant separations. Marriage counseling sessions that left us feeling more frustrated than healed. We knew we needed help. We loved each other but could not figure out how to make it work. We did not want to become another divorce statistic. The Retrouvaille Program helped us to turn our marriage around. And it can do the same for you.”*

*“A Retrouvaille Weekend was exactly what we needed to get our marriage back on track. We learned to communicate in ways that were deeper than we had ever shared before. Our marriage had been dealt a swift blow by infidelity and we were unsure if our marriage could survive. While we had lots of work to do on ourselves and our marriage, but this program was life changing for us.”*

*“We were so busy with work and raising a family that we lost sight of our marriage. We became so disconnected that even our children noticed it. We knew we needed help to better communicate and learn to make our marriage a priority. We put so much emphasis on everything else, our intimacy had simply vanished. We asked the grandparents to watch our kids, so we could focus on each other for the weekend. Our Retrouvaille Weekend gave us the tools we needed to bring our marriage back together. We are forever grateful for the tools we learned on our weekend.”*

*“It didn’t matter how big our house was. What mattered was that there was love in it. As a couple, we had been focusing on all the wrong things. We were too concerned with making more and having more than with our marriage and our family. We needed help to refocus on each other and to learn how to communicate with each other better. Our Retrouvaille Weekend was just what we needed to help us focus on what was important – our marriage and family.”*



*“Our kids wanted us happy. But we were struggling as a couple and were often verbally abusive to each other. We needed help and knew we could not be the*

*only couple facing similar power struggles in their marriage. Months of counseling had gotten us nowhere and we had nearly given up hope. We attended a Retrouvaille Weekend to learn a communication process that helped us build a solid relationship with each other. We were able to reconnect and repair our marriage. Our marriage and family now have hope and happiness.”*

*“We knew that we were not providing the kind of home that our children needed to be in. Our home was filled with conflict, arguments, and endless power struggles. We knew we had to do better, or we needed to separate. We decided to try a Retrouvaille Weekend Program and we had breakthroughs in our marriage that we never believed to be possible. Learning from other couples who have been in our shoes was the most helpful for us. We could relate to their stories and see a way to turn our marriage around.”*

  
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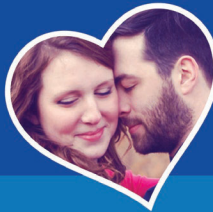
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