

Together in Holiness – Diocese of Charlotte
Saturday, November 18, 2023 | St. Ann Catholic Church, Charlotte, NC

FAMILY, A SCHOOL OF VIRTUE

8:00 AM	CONFERENCE CHECK-IN Childcare Check-In Light Breakfast – available once Mass has concluded Sacrament of Reconciliation - 8:00 - 8:30 am Exhibitor Booths – available throughout conference
8:30 AM	MASS AND MARRIAGE BLESSING Celebrant: Rev. Brandon Jones, Parochial Vicar, St. Ann Catholic Church
10:00 – 10:15 AM	WORDS OF WELCOME Susie Saenz, Vice President of Operations, St. John Paul II Foundation
10:15 – 11:15 AM	HOW TO NOURISH LOVE IN YOUR MARRIAGE Mario Sacasa, PhD, LMFT, Associate Director, Faith and Marriage Apostolate
11:30 AM – 12:30 PM	MARRIAGE, FAMILY, AND THE VIRTUE OF LOVE Victor Saenz, PhD, Executive Director, Houston Institute
12:30 – 2:15 PM	BREAK FOR LUNCH AND PRAYER Sacrament of Reconciliation – 1:15 - 2:15 pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament – 1:15 - 2:15 pm Benediction – 2:00 pm Exhibitor Booths – available throughout conference
2:30 – 3:30 PM	SACRIFICIAL LOVE IS SANCTIFYING LOVE Danielle Bean, Author, Speaker, and Podcaster
3:30 – 3:45 PM	CLOSING COMMENTS AND SENDING FORTH Childcare Check-out Last Chance for Exhibitor Booths

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PRESENTATION DESCRIPTIONS

HOW TO NOURISH LOVE IN YOUR MARRIAGE

Mario Sacasa, PhD, LMFT, Associate Director, Faith and Marriage Apostolate

Let us explore the 5 keys to keeping love alive in marriage: See Your Spouse as a Gift, Remember Their Mystery, Leisure Time Together, Meaningful Communication, and Healthy Physical Intimacy. This presentation draws on the beauty of the Church's vision for marriage while also integrating the latest in marriage counseling research. It will give couples practical wisdom for living out the uniqueness and unrepeatability of their union.

MARRIAGE, FAMILY, AND THE VIRTUE OF LOVE

Victor Saenz, PhD, Executive Director, Houston Institute

We all know well how our own brokenness can alienate us from true love; it can alienate us from God, others, and even from ourselves. For those called to marriage, Christ has established your relationship with your spouse as a sacrament; for you it is *the* privileged road to true love, joy, and peace in Jesus Christ. But, what is true love and how do I live it? This presentation will explore the authentic definition of love in contrast with the false visions of love. There will be a particular focus on how the sacrament of marriage assists spouses to love and how married couples are called to inspire others with their mission of self-giving love.

SACRIFICIAL LOVE IS SANCTIFYING LOVE

Danielle Bean, Author, Speaker, and Podcaster

Married life is a school of sacrifice, self-denial, and charity, reflecting Christ's love for the Church. This presentation will discuss how striving to love each other with a pure, sacrificial love produces fruits of joy and peace within a marriage. It will also enable couples to have a deeper appreciation and understanding of self-giving love as a central characteristic of the marriage vocation. Couples will receive insights into how to offer themselves as living sacrifices (Romans 12:1) within their marriage.