TOGETHER IN HOLINESS™
FORMATION SERIES

St. JOHN PAUL II FOUNDATION

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

What is the *Together in Holiness* Formation series? Year-round marriage enrichment for small communities of spouses designed to help married couples grow in friendship and explore their call to holiness in and through marriage and family life.

Is this program suitable for couples at any stage of marriage, including newlyweds and those married for many years? While this is open to all married couples, the content is intentionally designed for young married couples in their early years of marriage or those raising a young family.

Can engaged couples participate in the program? Since the *TH* Formation series is designed for married couples, engaged couples can plan to participate if they will be married by the time the group begins gathering.

How many couples are in a small group? These small groups ("*TH* Circles") consist of 4-6 couples including a Host Couple and 3-5 Participating Couples. A *TH* Circle is a peer-to-peer group of couples in a similar phase of life (all newlyweds, all parents of elementary aged children, etc.).

How do I get involved in the *TH* Formation series? There are two ways to join a *TH* Circle - as a participating couple and as a Host Couple. The first step is to fill out a participation form: **bit.ly/jpii-thfs**, and a Program Coordinator from the Foundation will be in touch shortly.

What is a Host Couple? A Host Couple accompanies their *TH* Circle and facilitates Circle gatherings within an atmosphere of hospitality and encouragement. They are not mentor couples with more years of experience or experts in marriage, but a peer who can walk alongside everyone.

How do I become a Host Couple? Indicate your interest on the Participation Form after which you'll have a 15 minute discernment call with a Program Coordinator to answer any questions, complete your registration, and finally watch 6 self-paced videos as a couple before starting your Circle gatherings.

What if me and my spouse don't know any other couples at our parish? No problem! The Program Coordinator can assist you with finding other couples at your parish or area.

If you are open to facilitating a *TH* Circle, you can also serve as a Host Couple for other couples to join your *TH* Circle.

How often does a *TH* Circle meet? *TH* Circles gather 7 times throughout the year based on couples schedules and availability. Most *TH* Circles meet once a month or every other month.

Is there flexibility in scheduling for couples with busy or irregular work schedules? Yes! Circle gatherings are designed to be flexible to fit into couples' busy schedules and can be scheduled whenever the Circle determines is best. *TH* Circles can also form and begin gathering at any time during the year.

What does a typical Circle gathering look like? Circle gatherings take place within the home of either the Host Couple or one of the Participating Couples. The duration of a Circle gathering can vary but it typically lasts about 2 hours. The general flow of the session includes a meal and fellowship, a short video, and time for prayer and discussion. There is also a Bring it Home activity for spouses to do together in between gatherings.

What topics are covered in the sessions? Session topics are based on St. John Paul II's teachings on marriage & family life, tying in scripture and the life of a saint. Topics in Series One: *Family, a Domestic Church* include: God's plan for marriage & family, the call to holiness, spousal and family prayer, and forming your children in the Catholic faith. Subsequent series dive deeper into these topics and more, including: prayer, virtue, vocations, and evangelization.

What is the cost of participating in a *TH* Circle? The registration cost is $75-150 per couple for the year, with scholarship options available from the Foundation. Please contact a Program Coordinator for more information.

Will childcare be provided during the sessions? Each *TH* Circle can decide how they would prefer to coordinate childcare. There are several options for couples including but not limited to: date night style where couples are responsible for their own childcare, recruiting a babysitter or older child to supervise the children while the couples gather, or planning a movie, games, or arts/crafts for the children in a separate room.