



Pulpit Announcement

Good Morning/Evening.

I am **Name** and this is my wife, **Name**. **Church Name** Parish has just begun a marriage prep program for its parishioners, called Witness to Love. This program is offered to all engaged couples as well as civilly married couples seeking marriage in our Church parish. **Name** and I are the Marriage Prep coordinators for this new program. The Coach Couples working with us are: **Name, Name, Name**

Witness to Love is a Parish Marriage Prep Renewal Movement that gives parishes, dioceses, and mentor couples, the tools that they need to prepare engaged couples for a marriage that will last. Specifically it is a tool for parishes that want to welcome engaged couples into parish life by building a support system for them as a part of their marriage prep.

The Goal of Witness to Love

Witness to Love seeks to offer engaged couples a way to witness healthy marital family love and family life from the mentor couple whom they choose, while integrating them into their parish through a formation plan for both the engaged couple and their mentor.

The key component of this program is for the engaged couple to choose a mentor couple to journey with them in preparing for marriage and to remain a source of support after the wedding day. The program lasts about 6 months prior to the wedding date. A virtue based workbook is used by both the couple to be married as well as the mentor couple to help facilitate the process. There are various tasks to be completed during this time of preparation, some include attending mass and making a chapel hour with their mentor couple.

We know that successful marriages do not 'just happen'. We believe this is such an honor to be part of! Your prayers of support for the engaged couples, mentor couples, program coordinators and clergy are encouraged and appreciated. Moving forward we will be doing marriage preparation as a community. Any of you married couples sitting here in church today might be asked by a younger couple to walk with them before and after their wedding. When couples receive a sacrament in this parish they are also received into community. Please keep our parish community in prayer as we seek to renew and support marriage!

Thank you for your time.