



DIOCESE OF DES MOINES

PRESSRelease

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Come celebrate marriage as a sacrament and commitment

Whether you've been married one year or 50 years or more, you're invited to celebrate your commitment to marriage with Bishop Richard Pates this Sunday, May 29 at 10:30 a.m. at St. Ambrose Cathedral or Sunday, June 26 at 11 a.m. at Queen of Apostles Church in Council Bluffs.

"Marriage is a 24-7 commitment 365 days a year," said Deacon Dennis Luft, coordinator of the diocesan Marriage Ministry Office with his wife, Sarah. "Having a successful marriage is hard work, but it's so gratifying."

"When you talk to a couple that has been married 25, 40, even 50 years or more, you hear stories of patience, of the family becoming stronger and helping each other when the going gets rough. We need to celebrate the commitment these couples have made to each other," said Bishop Pates. "In addition, when it seems we're in short supply of role models, we can turn to our own families for examples of couples who've survived struggles over the years and thrived."

The diocese not only honors commitment, but the Masses will highlight the fact that marriage is a sacrament, a sacred covenant between God and his people, said Deacon Luft.

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Marriage...add 1

After each of the two celebrations of marriage, there will be a reception and presentation of certificates for those marking significant anniversaries this year. Couples wishing to attend the Diocesan Marriage Celebration Day or receive a certificate can contact Deacon Dennis and Sarah Luft at Diocese of Des Moines, Marriage Ministry, 601 Grand Ave., Des Moines, 50309, or via email, luft@dmdiocese.org or call 515-237-5056.

For more information on marriage and the Catholic Church, go to the U.S. bishops' website www.ForYourMarriage.org.

The Diocese of Des Moines is comprised of 83 parishes in the 23 counties of central and southwest Iowa.

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