

## *Feedback from couples*

**‘We gained a lot of insight into each other.’**

**“Gave us tools to face problems.”**

**“Hits the button where we are at the moment.”**

**“Gave us practical ideas which helped our communication.”**

**“Relevant to what we’re going through.”**

**“All the talks have been good and have come at appropriate times in our marriage - they have helped us talk issues through.”**

**“All the talks were useful because they prompted us to reflect on what we do and why we do it. It’s also nice to know that others go through similar difficulties to us.”**

**“All the talks reinforced that our experience was normal - we found that reassuring.”**

**“Very appropriate time in our relationship. All talks have been wonderful!”**

## *Enquiries and bookings*

This is a program for couples in the first year of marriage. We urge you to book as soon as possible, even before the wedding.

Bookings close at the end of November each year for the following years program. If you’re marrying in March you can still begin that year providing you book by November.

### **Enquiries**

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or

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*(Members of the Catholic Society for Marriage Education)*



## **About to be married?**

## **Recently married?**



## **Then this is for you...**



## Ministry to the Newly Married

- Would you like to meet other couples who value their marriages and are working at building strong, fulfilling relationships?
- Would you like to benefit from the knowledge and insights of couples who have been married for some time?
- Would you like to develop friendships with a broad spectrum of couples who support and affirm your decision to marry?

Marriage education is a lifelong task! We continue to train and update our skills in most areas of our lives. Why not your marriage too?

Ministry to the Newly Married is a mentoring program for couples beginning in the first year of marriage, who have been married in the Catholic Church.

It is organised by a group of Catholic couples who have a special place in our hearts for newly marrieds.

It's our aim to offer newly marrieds our friendship and resources for marriage and family life.



## Why the first five years are important

Over one third of divorces occur in the first five years of marriage.

These are among the most challenging years for couples. We all face stresses and anxiety from time to time but the first five years of marriage has more than its fair share.

Just a few of the challenges most couples can expect include:

- Job changes
- The arrival of a new baby
- Changes in finance and accounting
- Buying / moving homes and
- Developing new customs and traditions

It's a time of transition!

It can be a real boost in the early years of marriage to meet with other married couples and to hear their stories and find out what worked for them.

We are a group of caring married couples who meet regularly with newly married couples to share stories and experiences that have worked for us.

## How it all works

Ministry to the Newly Married is a five year program which starts at the beginning of each calendar year.

Every year, in the program, we will match you with a new mentor couple. You get to meet with them four times throughout the year.

The get togethers have an informal structure but with a theme for discussion. When you get together with your mentor couple they will share with you experiences about their marriage and different ways they've addressed the theme in their relationship.

The year starts and ends with everyone in the program (mentors and newly marrieds) getting together for a celebration.

Each year you will get a new mentor couple so that over the five years you will have a chance to discuss 20 different topics and gain an insight into five different marriages. The topics covered in the program have been selected from feedback of 3000 couples on what they most wanted to discuss.

See over for details!

*Life Long Learning  
for Marriage*

