## Memo

**Date:** June 21, 2021

**To:** Pastors, priests, deacons and parish staff

**From:** The Most Reverend Gregory J. Hartmayer, OFM Conv.

**Re:** Grant opportunity – Marriage-Building Parish Grant

In this Year of St. Joseph, the Pillar of Family Life, which also coincides with the fifth anniversary of Pope Francis' *Amoris Laetitia* and the 40th anniversary of St. John Paul's *Familiaris Consortio*, I am pleased to announce the opening of an application process for three pilot parishes to receive a *Marriage-Building Parish Grant*.

Each grant will provide up to \$50,000 worth of organizational leadership and effective training, over a period of two years, from the staff of MarriageBuilding-ConstruyendoMatrimonios USA (MBUSA), a non-profit ministry team with more than 40 years of experience in marriage and family ministry, in collaboration with the Archdiocese of Atlanta's Office of Intercultural Ministries and Office of Formation and Discipleship. While the three selected parishes will receive focused attention from MBUSA, the archdiocese will benefit as a whole from broader trainings and resources made available. I am grateful to the Catholic Marriage Initiative Fund, our major funder, for making this grant opportunity possible.

If you are interested in submitting an application for a Marriage-Building Parish Grant, please review and complete the <u>enclosed application</u> and send to Lucia Luzondo (<u>lluzondo@archatl.com</u>) by **Monday, July 12**. The Marriage-Building Parish Grant is a wonderful opportunity for parishes to deepen and grow their parish outreach to marriages and families and to have a lasting impact on their parish through family life renewal. I gladly support this effort and encourage pastors or their designates to apply.