



Memo

Date: November 1, 2021

To: Parish clergy and staff

From: Daniel West, Marriage & Family Life, Office of Formation and Discipleship

Re: Marriage Preparation - Mentor couple-based programs

Mentor couple-based marriage preparation programs are a wonderful way to accompany the engaged couples at your parish. Mentor couple programs can foster both parish connection and nurture authentic accompaniment before and after the wedding day. They have greater success in keeping couples engaged in parish life, and provide an avenue for them to find help when difficulties arise in their marriage.

[Witness to Love](#) is a virtues-based, catechumenate model of marriage renewal and preparation that integrates modern principles of psychology and the virtues to help couples facilitate an authentic dialogue about their relationship. The Office of Formation and Discipleship is ready to support and assist parishes that may want to adopt this form of marriage preparation at their parish. This model has proven to be successful at pilot parishes over the last few years.

Due to lack of demand and to our continued focus on *Witness to Love*, we are ceasing our ongoing trainings for the mentor couple program *For Better & For Ever*. For those parishes that may have used *For Better & For Ever* in the past, we are happy to assist you in adopting the *Witness to Love* program or finding other options for marriage preparation at your parish.

For more information and assistance in bringing *Witness to Love* to your parish, please contact me at dwest@archatl.com or (404) 920-7631.