



Catholic Marriage Preparation Survey 2010

Newsletter: Progress through September

The Catholic Marriage Preparation Survey 2010 conducted by the Marriage and Family Life Committee of the Catholic Bishops' Conference of England and Wales has completed its ninth month. In this time, a total of 290 responses have been collected from priests, deacons, marriage preparation providers, and couples involved in Catholic marriage preparation this year.

For anyone who has not yet completed the survey, please go to <http://www.catholicmarriage.org.uk>. Your participation is greatly appreciated! For those who have completed the survey, the following results are provided upon request for updates on progress of the survey.

Highlights from the Survey of Couples Prepared for Marriage in 2010: 110 responses have been collected

- 92% of couples reported that "to give marriage best possible start" was an important or very important motivation for taking a marriage preparation course
- 81% of couples would recommend their marriage preparation course to those seeking the sacrament
- 65% said that their understanding of themselves, their partner, and their relationship was improved by taking the course
- 42% said their understanding of the Catholic faith was improved by the course
- 83% of couples rated their overall experience a 4 or 5 out of 5

Comments received from couples who experienced marriage preparation:

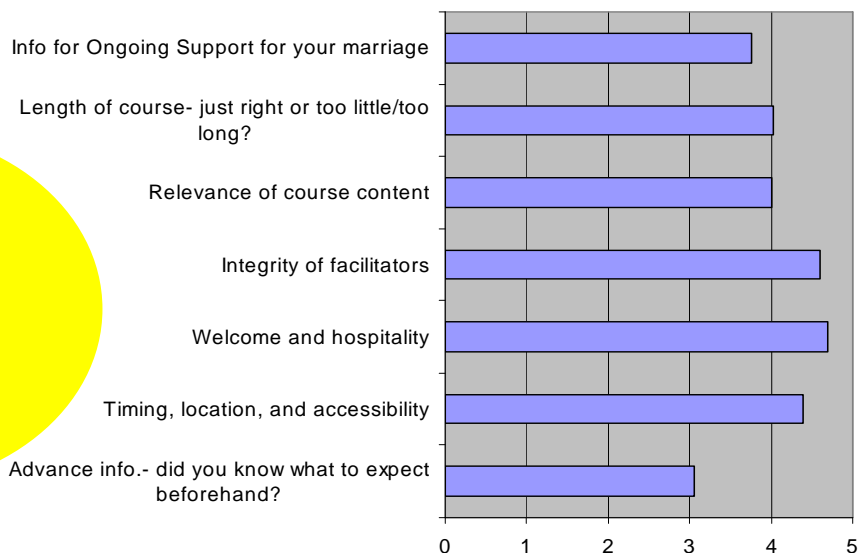
"This course exceeded my expectations"

"Now we know the kind of marriage we want"

"This is the best thing we have ever done for our relationship"

"This course could have saved my first marriage"

How do you rate the following? (Averages of 110 Couples)



Highlights from the Survey of Marriage Preparation Providers: 180 responses have been collected

- 83% of marriage preparation providers are lay people
- 82% facilitate discussion of conflict management with a strong emphasis
- 92% discuss commitment and work life balance with a strong to moderate emphasis
- 84% of providers report that the course is a day long or a series of evenings

We have free prayer cards to give to couples preparing for marriage this year. If you would like to receive a special prayer card in celebration of the Sacrament of Marriage, please e-mail Erik with your mailing address: Erik.Bock@cbcew.org.uk