

Catholic Marriage Preparation Survey 2010

Newsletter: Progress through March



Everyone involved with Catholic marriage preparation in 2010 (priests, deacons, marriage preparation providers, couples) are invited and encouraged to take a brief online survey addressing their experiences. The survey is conducted by the Marriage & Family Life Committee of the Catholic Bishops' Conference to gather information on who is involved with marriage preparation and how it is conducted in order to recognize areas of need and to affirm the benefits provided by marriage preparation. The survey can be found at <http://www.catholicmarriage.org.uk>.

If you have already completed it, thank you for participating in the Catholic Marriage Preparation Survey 2010! In accordance with your expressed interest in the progress of this survey, the Marriage and Family Life Committee of the Catholic Bishops' Conference of England and Wales would like to share with you results from January through March. If you have not yet completed the survey, please follow the link posted above.

Highlights from the Survey of Marriage Preparation Providers:

79 responses have been collected

- 64% have been preparing couples for more than 7 years
- 51% became involved in marriage preparation at the request of their parish, deacon, priest, or deanery
- 57% run a course that lasts from 4 to 8 hours long
- 65% said that March is one of their busiest months for marriage preparation
- 37% discuss money management with a moderate emphasis, while 38% do not address it
- 86% facilitate discussion of interpersonal communication with a strong emphasis

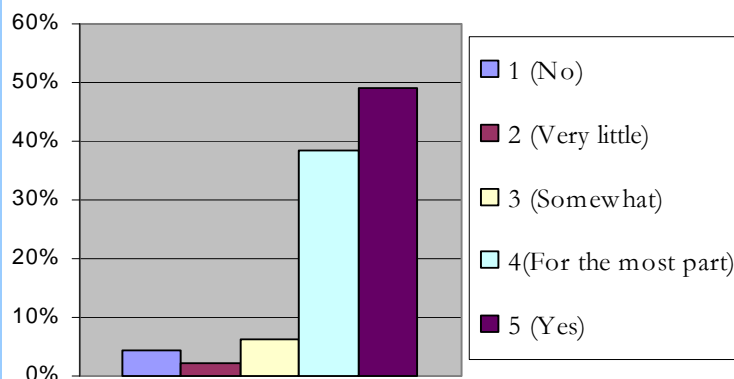
"We feel it is a tremendous privilege to work with couples as they prepare for the sacrament of marriage. They share intimate and personal thoughts and it is uplifting to see how thoughtfully most young couples are approaching this landmark in their lives."

—Marriage Preparation Providers

Highlights from the Survey of Couples Prepared in 2010 for Marriage:

51 responses have been collected

Relevance of course content: Was it pitched at the right level for you?



- 73% feel that their understanding of themselves, their partner, and their relationship has improved due to marriage preparation
- 38% have had a courtship of 3 years or less
- 33% experienced marriage preparation 1 to 3 months in advance of the wedding; 31% between 3 and 6 months before; 22% between 6 and 9 months prior
- 94% said that their overall experience with marriage preparation was 'Very Good' or 'Excellent'
- 92% would recommend a similar course to other couples

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 Amanda with your mailing address: Amanda.Cosfol@cbcew.org.uk.