



July 8, 2022

To whom it may concern,

Gerard and Rita McCarthy offer a marriage preparation course “Marriages for Mary” to help prepare couples to celebrate the sacrament of marriage. Their course helps couples to consider many important aspects of the vocation to married life. It includes material to aid reflection on the spiritual dimension of their lives together as they seek to live the vocation to married life. They also provide spiritual support to couples after marriage who are looking to strengthen their relationship with God and with each other as they journey together in the sacrament of marriage.

I endorse their ministry of providing spiritual support to couples before and after marriage, recognizing the need to encourage married couples to live their vocation to married life together in a healthy relationship that includes their life of faith.

The marriage preparation course they facilitate is a unique opportunity for couples to help them prepare to celebrate the sacrament and I believe it assists them in strengthening their faith lives under the maternal protection of our Blessed Mother Mary.

The decision to get married in the Church is an important one and I endorse “Marriages for Mary” as one way to assist couples to prepare to celebrate the sacrament of marriage within the context of our Catholic Christian faith.

I bestow upon them my episcopal blessing.

✠ Marcel Damphousse
Archbishop of Ottawa-Cornwall