



## Joy-Filled Marriage Program

The **Joy-Filled Marriage** program is offered by the Archdiocese of Atlanta to prepare couples for marriage.

The program is divided into two workshops: Life Skills for Couples and Marriage as Sacrament. There is an alternate Life Skills workshop available for widows and couples with previous marriages.

To complete this program, couples must attend both workshops, which require two separate Saturdays. Once both workshops are attended, the couple will receive their marriage certificate.

Workshops are available on various Saturdays throughout the year, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the offices of the Archdiocese of Atlanta in Smyrna. The cost is \$80 per couple for each workshop. The Love Again workshop is \$115 per couple. The only thing you need to bring to the workshops is a jacket if you get cold indoors.

Registration for all workshops is available on the archdiocesan website.

For more questions about the Joy-Filled Marriage program, please contact:

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Ministry Lead, Marriage and Family Life  
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### Part 1: Life Skills for Couples

This introductory workshop incorporates sound psychology and theology to help one understand and set patterns of thinking and acting to build a lifelong and joy-filled marriage.

#### Topics include:

- Life-skills based on virtue
- Discovering and uniting your goals
- Communication
- Conflict resolution

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- Resource management
- Intimacy – prayer and sexuality

## **Alternative Part 1: Remarriage – Love Again**

This is an introductory workshop offered three times per year for the widowed and couples with previous marriages that the Church has declared null. These couples face some challenges that are different from those of couples marrying for the first time.

### **Topics include:**

- Starting out new by dealing with the past
- Strategies for conflict resolution
- Step-kids, step-parenting and stepfamilies
- Blending faith, traditions and daily life

Couples taking Remarriage - Love Again can also take Life Skills for Couples for no additional cost. Please contact Julian for more information.

## **Part 2: Marriage as Sacrament**

This workshop is specifically designed to prepare couples for marriage within the Catholic Church. The day reflects on God's design for marriage, one's desire for love and practical ways to conform our own desires to God's love through the vocation of marriage.

### **Topics include:**

- Love in a fallen world
- What do we truly desire
- "I do?" - The basics of marriage in the church
- Set up for success
- Sustaining intimacy for a lifelong marriage
- Practical benefits of natural family planning

*For couples separated by distance, please ask your pastor to recommend another marriage preparation program, such as [catholicmarriageprep.com](http://catholicmarriageprep.com).*