

July 12, 2021

Dear Supporters of NFP, Marriage and Family Life:

I would first like to take this opportunity to introduce myself as the new Coordinator for Marriage and Family Life at the Diocese of Sacramento. As the Coordinator for Marriage & Family Life, my job is to assist the Associate Director in offering a variety of educational programs, events, services, and resources designed to promote the Catholic vision of marriage, human sexuality and family life. My position concentrates in coordinating the Gabriel Project, NFP Ministries, and supports parish-based marriage and family life ministries.

My home parish is St. Mary's in Vacaville where I've been involved at the parish level as the Wedding and Marriage Prep Coordinator, a FertilityCare Practitioner of the Creighton Model System, and Youth Minister. I'm excited to bring my experience to the diocese while knowing I have much to learn in how I can better serve and support you.

On July 25th, we begin *National Natural Family Planning Awareness Week* marking the fifty-third anniversary of Saint Pope Paul VI's encyclical *Humanae Vitae*. So please join me and fellow NFP Instructors, Marriage Preparation Coordinators/Couples, catechists and couples that help promote Catholic beliefs about human sexuality, conjugal love, and responsible parenthood on **Saturday, July 31st from 11am-2:30pm** for our NFP Annual Gathering at **St. Mary's Church** (350 Stinson Ave, Vacaville, CA 95688). We will cover the Love & Liberty campaign, future NFP/MP trainings, and share best practices. You can register at <u>https://catholic.formstack.com/forms/nfpgathering2021</u>.

I would also like to let you know of an upcoming NFP Ambassador Training available to you. Please see the attached flyer. We highly recommend that all parishes send at least one NFP Instructor to the training. You can register at <u>https://catholic.formstack.com/forms/nfptraining</u>.

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me at (916) 733-0156 or <u>aarevalo@scd.org</u>. See you there!

Blessings,

Andreya Arevalo

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NFP Ambassador Training: 4-week series

4 consecutive weeks on Tuesdays:

Sept 14th, 21st, 28th, & Oct 5th

> 6:30PM PT \$40 fee

Presented by: PEARL & THISTLE, LLC

Looking to support NFP in your parish? Become an Ambassador! All ambassadors will receive 2 hard copies of Parish Planning Packet, access to private online Facebook group for Pearl & Thistle trained Ambassadors, plus electronic media kit for parish promotion and additional resource folder.

Format: 90-minute sessions hosted via Zoom. See learning objectives on reverse side.

http://catholic.formstack.com/forms/nfptraining Questions? Contact Andreya Arevalo | 916.733.0156 | aarevalo@scd.org

Learning Objectives ...

KNOWLEDGE:

- Main types of NFP (and representative methods
- Resources for accessing various NFP methods
- Resources for remote support
- Church teaching on NFP and the role of laity
- Awareness of pastoral issues surrounding NFP
- Clearly define the role of the Ambassador in general, with suggestion for local adaptations

COMPETENCIES:

- Conversational confidence to be used in approaching parish staff, addressing NFP in the context of parish activities one-on-one relationships
- Discernment of particular gifts and consequent role in providing local support
- Assess areas of potential growth or improvement within the local parish, and develop concrete strategies for addressing these areas