

Couple to Couple League of Northwest Indiana
Chapter Meeting
October 19, 2013 at Our Lady of Consolation, Merrillville

Meeting opened with welcome from Janet Sienicki of the St. Gianna Molla Respect Life Group (SGMRLG) of Our Lady of Consolation (OLOC). Members in attendance: Jim & Dawn Czarnik (TC), Kearney Szevery (TC), Gregg Degen (CTC), and Todd & Julie Zasada (TC).

Chapter Activities

Teaching – General conversation and questions about teaching, marriage prep impact on classes, charting follow-up, kids present during classes, etc.

Publicity – Activities in last 6 months included co-sponsoring Kimberly Hahn at SJE in May, attending SGMRLG pro-life workshop in June and SJE/Franciscan health fair in September. Marketing kit of table cloth, 3x6 floor banner and 24x36 tabletop banner was purchased. Brochures were sent to Women's Care Center of NWI.

Action items:

- Re-run ad in NWIC marriage supplement in February 2014.
- Plan to have a presence at Lake Co RTL dinner April 4, 2014. Ask Rosanne about dates of right-to-life dinners in Porter & LaPorte counties.
- Provide brochures to St. Anthony's prenatal assistance program.
- Kearney & Dawn to research possible bridal fair and women's fair participation.
- Julie to ask Central about breastfeeding/fertility brochure for NWI Breastfeeding Coalition resource manual.
- Follow-up with Rosanne on "organic" themed NFP brochure alternative for diocese.
- Kearney is training to become a certified Doula with DONA International. She will look for ways to promote/connect with others in the field.

Chapter Meetings – Next meeting will be Saturday, April 5, 2014 at 10 am at OLOC. Janet from SGMRLG was also notified.

Our Path Forward

NWI CCL-trained couples – Kearney to ask Central for database and begin outreach.

Franciscan Alliance Hospital Network – Julie & Todd still waiting to meet with Dr. Foreit.

Diocesan Relationship – See Rosanne's email from 10/19/13 attached below.

Area Chapters & North Central Region – No updates. [Local chapters are in Chicago, Fox Valley (Rockford, IL), Kankakee County (IL), Ft. Wayne (IN), and Indianapolis. We are part of CCL's North Central Region which includes WI, IL, IN, MI, and OH. National mtgs are no longer scheduled by Central.]

Misc.

Saturday, October 26, 2013 – Dr. Lawler, prolife doctor in IL, to speak at Catholic Professionals' Group meeting in Oakbrook Terrace, IL.

SGMRLG Annual Pro-Life Workshop – CCL NWI is invited to set-up a resource table at the 2014 event.

USCCB NFP Awareness Week – July 20-26, 2014. See email below for possible event idea.

Email Correspondence

From: Rosanne Kouris
Sent: Saturday, October 19, 2013 9:50 AM
Subject: RE: Today's CCL NWI meeting

As an update for all regarding the diocesan marriage prep/NFP program. Some of you asked for more details. What my hopes for the program will be and what it actually will become probably are two different things. So, for now, the diocesan central marriage prep program remains the same as it was except for the fact that 1. I am now the diocesan trainer for couples who want to teach marriage prep either in their parishes or for the diocese and, 2. George and I are now the teachers for the diocesan central program.

With those 2 in place, we have a little more room for moving NFP forward within marriage prep. On our evaluation after our marriage prep class, we got 2 of the 8 couples who felt the NFP presentation was most helpful, 3 who said the Theology of the Body/sacramentality of marriage was most helpful, and 3 who like the communications part. We also got quite a few comments about the program being too short, and that we needed to go into great depth. All of these are very encouraging in moving the diocese toward a full NFP course requirement. How that requirement will work or how we can get more engaged couples into taking a full NFP course is yet to be seen.

From: NFP Indy
Subject: 2013 NFP Awareness Week Activities

In Recognition of the US Conference of Catholic Bishops' Natural Family Planning Awareness Week 2013: God's Love "Celebrate and reverence God's vision of human sexuality"
Novena, Mass, Adoration and Reception Sponsored by The Saint Monica Catholic Church NFP Ministry and the Couple to Couple League of Indianapolis

Pray the Novena, and then join us for Mass, Adoration and a reception. Come celebrate families, encourage chastity for our state in life, and a greater respect for God's beautiful gift of marital sexuality.

Thursday July 18th - Friday July 26th: Novena – For a Rebirth of Chastity and Purity. The novena is available at www.nfpindy.org; select "Events" from the navigation bar.

Wednesday July 24th: Mass, Adoration and Reception
St. Monica Catholic Church, 6131 N. Michigan Rd, Indianapolis, IN 46228
Directions to St. Monica Catholic Church may be found at www.nfpindy.org
5:30 pm – Mass with Adoration available immediately following until 9:00 pm.
6:30 pm – Speakers and Reception in the Parish Hall

For more information about NFP Awareness Week events call Mike or Ann Green at 317-426-1637 or go to www.nfpindy.org and select "Events" from the navigation bar.