

# Welcome

to the

# Family Life Office

of the

*Archdiocese of New York*

**The Family Life Office** of the Archdiocese of New York collaborates with the parishes of the archdiocese and recommends programs and resources that prepare and enrich engaged and married couples; educate, form, support, and strengthen families; build and promote a culture of life; and provide healing and comfort to those struggling with loss, grief, or brokenness.

The four pillars of marriage and family life found in the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops document *Called to the Joy of Love: The National Pastoral Framework for Marriage and Family Life Ministry* are: Prayer and Relationship with Christ, Formation, Accompaniment, and Advocacy. They form the foundation on which we continue to build and support programs and initiatives for use by parishes.

Know that the entire Family Life Office staff are ready to serve your needs and look forward to hearing from you.

**Theodore J. Musco**

*Director, Family Life Office*

*Cardinal Cooke Catholic Center, 7th Floor*

**646-794-3186**



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FAMILY LIFE

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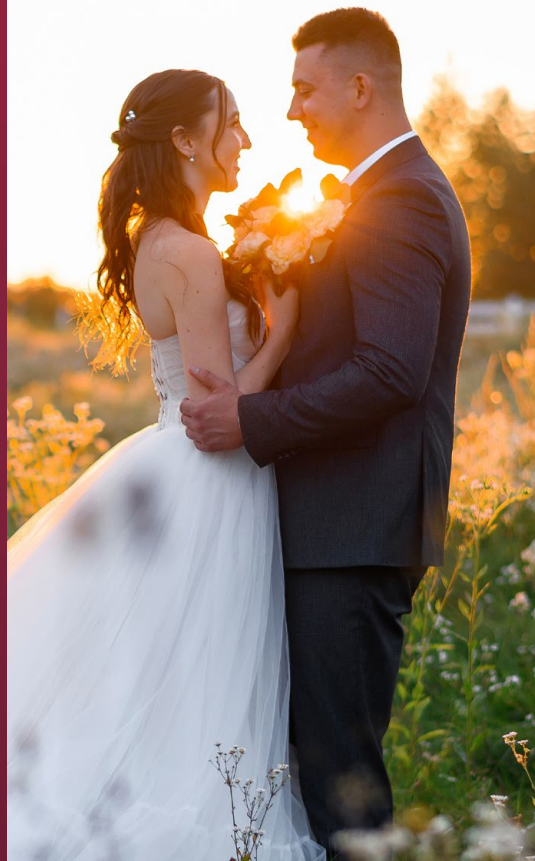
## General Family Ministries

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Thus the family, in which the various generations come together and help one another grow wiser and harmonize personal rights with the other requirements of social life, is the foundation of society. All those, therefore, who exercise influence over communities and social groups should work efficiently for the welfare of marriage and the family.

– Gaudium et Spes, #52

Outreach to families is multi-faceted and takes the commitment of many groups and individuals. The Family Life Office is tasked with coordinating these efforts, especially in the areas that follow. However, in the ever-changing climate, we are not limited to only the areas listed and seek to work with pastors and parish leaders to serve the needs that may arise. Please contact the Director for assistance in areas other than the ones that follow.



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## Marriage

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The office provides ongoing support for clergy and couples at several different inflection points:

### *Marriage Preparation (Pre-Cana)*

The archdiocesan marriage preparation program is composed of a set of integrated components including an online relationship inventory, online learning modules, and a one-day Pre-Cana (in-person or virtual). The program is available in both English and Spanish language offerings.

For scheduling Marriage preparation, Convalidation/Re-Marriage, Prepare/

Enrich, Catholic Couple Check-up relationship inventories, and other Marriage Preparation questions:

### **Español:**

- **Lisa Del Valle**, Bilingual Family Life Support Specialist  
646-794-3193
- **Yorleni Tavarez-Sanchez**, Bilingual Marriage and Family Life Specialist  
646-794-3199

### **English:**

- **Jeanne Travis**, Marriage and Family Life Office Support Specialist  
646-794-3188
- **Suzanne Hammill**, Assistant Director  
646-794-3183

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## Marriage Enrichment

The Family Life office supports the sanctity of marriage through a combination of programs, masses, and community engagements supporting our married couples at all stages.

For Prepare/Enrich facilitator training, retreats for married couples, archdiocesan longest married couple search, and 50th Anniversary support:

- **Suzanne Hammill**,  
*Assistant Director*  
646-794-3183

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## National Family Planning and Fertility Awareness Based Methods (FABMs)

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[tinyurl.com/Fertility-Awareness](http://tinyurl.com/Fertility-Awareness)

In conjunction with Marriage Preparation/Enrichment, Family health initiatives, and Parenting ministry, consultations with Fertility Practitioners, and Family Life staff can be used to discuss questions with overall Women's health, achieving pregnancy, struggles with infertility, and post-partum support.

For more information, please contact:

- **Cassie Moriarty**, *Fertility Educator*  
803-606-2121
- **Vinny DaSilva**, *Associate Director*  
646-794-3168

### Español (PFN):

- **Yorleni Tavarez-Sanchez**, *Bilingual Marriage and Family Life Specialist*  
646-794-3199

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## Separated and Divorced

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For Divorced support groups, parish trainings, annulment seminars, Catholic Therapist referrals:

- **Carmen Noschese, MSMFT**,  
*Coordinator, Separated and Divorced Ministry (Bilingual)*  
646-794-3194

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## Parenting

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The Education for Parenting ministry supports parents in their God-given vocation by creating networks to connect with other Catholic mothers and fathers. We provide opportunities for retreat, family education, catechesis and parish enrichment.

- **Sue DiSisto**, *Parenting and Family Life Education Specialist*  
646-794-3191



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## Bereavement

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The Pastoral Bereavement Program of the Archdiocese of New York is the Church's response to God's call to comfort those who mourn.

For Parish Counseling Network information, Catholic Therapist referrals, Bereavement support group information, Bereavement facilitator training and parish-based support:

- **Vinny DaSilva**, *Associate Director*  
646-794-3168



For Emmaus Ministry for Grieving Parents (retreats supporting parents that have experienced the death of a child):

- **Sue DiSisto**, *Parenting and Family Life Education Specialist*  
646-794-3191

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## Family Life Office Ministries en Español

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The Spanish programs serve the Spanish-speaking communities.

Offerings include marriage preparation, marriage enrichment, and fertility awareness/natural family planning (NFP) education, as well as support and resources around parenting issues and bereavement.

- **Yorleni Tavarez-Sanchez**, *Bilingual Marriage and Family Life Specialist*  
646-794-3199



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For general information, call the Family Life Office at 646-794-3188  
Para información general, llame a 646-794-3188

[archny.org/family-life](http://archny.org/family-life) · [archny.org/vida-familiar](http://archny.org/vida-familiar)