

## REFERRAL INFORMATION FOR CLERGY

### ANGLICAN DIOCESE OF OTTAWA MARRIAGE PREPARATION COURSES

The following information will assist you in making appropriate referrals to the two courses offered by the Anglican Diocese of Ottawa. Thank you for referring couples to these courses. We hope that you and the couples who take these courses find them to be of benefit.

<b>Marriage Preparation Course</b>	<b>Re-marriage &amp; Step-Parenting Preparation Course</b>
<p>This course is best suited for couples who have never been married before.</p> <p>It is also an appropriate course for younger couples who are re-marrying and who do not have children from a previous relationship.</p> <p>In forming small groups for discussion, organizers try to bring people of similar ages and life experiences together so that participants feel comfortable and can relate to the other couples in their group.</p> <p>The course is primarily intended for couples preparing for marriage, but couples who are already married are also very welcome to attend.</p> <p>If either the bride or groom have children from a previous relationship, then our <i>Re-Marriage and Step-Parenting Preparation Course</i> would likely be a better choice for them even if neither the bride or the groom has been married previously.</p>	<p>This course is best suited for couples who are bringing children from a previous relationship into their marriage. It is also the most appropriate for couples that are re-marrying (i.e. either the bride, the groom or both has been married previously).</p> <p>A significant portion of this course deals with issues of step-parenting. Couples of all ages attend this course, usually a significant number with adult children. It is often a relief for people to hear about the common struggles and successes of step-parenting and this course provides that opportunity.</p> <p>Younger couples who are re-marrying and do not have children from a previous relationship may prefer to take the regular <i>Marriage Preparation Course</i> instead.</p> <p>In forming small groups for discussion, organizers try to bring people of similar ages and life experiences together so that participants feel comfortable and can relate to the other couples in their group.</p> <p>The course is primarily intended for couples preparing for marriage, but couples who are already married are also very welcome to attend.</p>
<p><b>Note:</b> If the bride and groom have children and they are their own (i.e. the bride and groom are the parents of these children), then the <i>Marriage Preparation Course</i> would likely be the best choice for the couple. The step-parenting issues addressed in our other course would not apply in their situation.</p>	

Your comments and feedback about these courses are appreciated and assist us in future planning. For additional copies of the course brochure or this referral sheet please contact:

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