

BUILDING YOUR  
*Marriage*  
BEFORE IT STARTS



A ONE-DAY MARRIAGE PREPARATION WORKSHOP  
FOR COUPLES WHO WANT TO BUILD A MARRIAGE THAT WILL  
HAVE THE FOUNDATION TO LAST A LIFETIME.

EACH WORKSHOP IS DIRECTED BY  
THE MARRIAGE & FAMILY MINISTRY  
AND IS OFFERED AT



**Holy Spirit**  
CATHOLIC CHURCH

**2018 Workshop Dates:**  
**January 13 • April 14 • July 21 • October 27**

For additional information please visit: [hsmarriageandfamily.org](http://hsmarriageandfamily.org)  
Tracey Pucci at 404-252-4513 or e-mail: [tpucci@hscatl.com](mailto:tpucci@hscatl.com)





# BUILDING YOUR *Marriage* BEFORE IT STARTS

Any wedding is a significant event, but a Catholic wedding is more than that. For Catholics, marriage is not merely a civil contract, but a covenant between a man and a woman before God.

Couples today face more demands and have fewer supports than ever before. Today's marriage oftentimes involves managing two careers while rearing children. Healthy communication and continued intimacy are essential. Even good marriages have challenges that surface that have the potential to cripple the relationship and harm the family.

This workshop teaches couples how best to discuss and manage finances, develop and implement consistent parenting styles and, most importantly, integrate their faith in everyday decisions. You don't have to discover all the things that make a marriage work on your own.

There is no scientific way to determine one's readiness for marriage, but this workshop, presented by a team of a priest, two licensed social workers and a married couple, is a valuable tool that promotes dialogue between you and your future spouse on the most important issues relating to marriage.



While this workshop is not only for Catholics, the material discussed in the workshop is faithful to the teachings of the Catholic faith.

Marriage is a journey a couple walks together daily with all of its joys and challenges. Holy Spirit Catholic Church wants your marriage to stay as blessed as the day you said, "I do." Don't miss this opportunity to "Build Your Marriage Before It Starts"!

## *Workshop Information*

### **2018 Dates:**

**January 13 • April 14 • July 21 • October 27**

Location: Holy Spirit Catholic Church  
4465 Northside Drive, N.W. • Atlanta, GA 30327

Time: 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Cost: \$150  
(Includes lunch and refreshments)

*A priest or deacon, with the pastor's blessing, must approve a couple's attendance before a couple can register for a workshop.*

*Registration is required. For questions about space availability on certain dates please call 404-252-4513 ext. 250.*

*Completion of the workshop meets the requirements for marriage preparation of the Archdiocese of Atlanta. Additionally, the state of Georgia offers a discount on the cost of the marriage license for couples who have taken at least six hours of marriage preparation. Each county requires its own form of documentation to receive this discount. However, most counties accept the certificate given to each couple at the end of the workshop. If the county needs further documentation, Holy Spirit Catholic Church will be happy to complete any additional documentation requested by the county.*



**Holy Spirit**  
CATHOLIC CHURCH

*Holy Spirit Catholic Church is "Making God's Kingdom Present in the World" by partnering with other parishes and ministries of the Archdiocese to service our communities.*

Visit our website at  
[www.hsccatl.com](http://www.hsccatl.com)

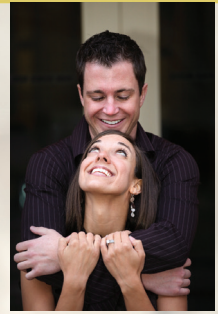
*for other family enrichment workshops.*

# Presenters

## Father Paul A. Burke

*Chair—Department of Theology  
Holy Spirit College*

Father Paul A. Burke was ordained a priest for the Archdiocese of Atlanta on May 24, 1996 by the Most Reverend John F. Donoghue, Archbishop of Atlanta. A graduate of St. Patrick's College, Maynooth, Ireland, with highest honors, Father Burke also received master's degrees in divinity and moral theology from Mount St. Mary's Seminary in Emmitsburg, Md. He attended the Pope John Paul II Institute for Marriage and Family in Washington, D.C. Father Burke was awarded a licentiate in canon law by The Catholic University of America in Washington, D.C. He is a JCD/Ph.D. candidate at the Catholic University, Leuven, Belgium. He teaches theology at Holy Spirit College and serves as chair of the theology faculty.



## Deborah A. Russo, PsyD., M.S., M.A

*Presenter  
Licensed Clinical Psychologist*

Dr. Deborah Russo, is a Licensed Clinical Psychologist with The Atlanta Center for Wellness. She has over 25 years experience as a therapist working with individuals, couples and families. Dr. Russo is a Certified facilitator for several marriage preparation programs and is a Gottman Institute Relationship Check Up Verified Member. Her work includes assisting premarital and married couples in practicing healthful communication & conflict management skills that enrich and heal relationships. She was awarded her Masters in Rehabilitation Counseling from the University of South Florida; and, Masters and Doctorate in Clinical Psychology from the Florida Institute of Technology.

## Linda Sweeney

*Presenter  
Licensed Clinical Social Worker*

Linda Sweeney, L.C.S.W., served as program coordinator for the Family Life Office for the Archdiocese of Atlanta from 2000-2009 and program director at Grace and Growth Counseling Center from 2009-2013. She wrote and published a newsletter providing continuing education on marriage and family life topics for family ministry professionals, clergy and paraprofessionals in 100 archdiocesan churches. Linda is a certified facilitator for the marriage preparation inventory known as FOCCUS (Facilitating Open Couple Communication, Understanding and Study). She was awarded her master's degree in social work with mental health concentration in 1985 from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

## Stephen and Ellen Cocks

*Volunteers - Marriage and Family Ministry*

Stephen and Ellen Cocks, parishioners at Holy Spirit and the parents of three children, have worked in marriage ministry for over 15 years at both the parish and archdiocesan level. In this workshop the couple will share with participants their life experiences that illustrate their challenges as well as the triumphs that they have experienced as they have strived to live out the sacrament of marriage on a daily basis. Stephen and Ellen, who are trained in Natural Family Planning, are also presenters at the archdiocesan Pre-Cana workshop.

*Workshop topics and speakers are subject to change without notice.*

**[hsmarriageandfamily.org](http://hsmarriageandfamily.org)**



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Register online at [hscat1.com/marriageandfamily](http://hscat1.com/marriageandfamily). Or, complete the enclosed and mail with check or credit/debit card information to Marriage and Family Ministry - Holy Spirit Catholic Church - 4465 Northside Drive NW, 30327  
Please make check for \$150, payable to Holy Spirit Catholic Church, and enclose with registration.

To pay by credit or debit card, please fill out and sign the enclosed form.

For additional information please visit: [hsmarriageandfamily.org](http://hsmarriageandfamily.org)  
or contact Tracey Pucci at 404-252-4513 or e-mail: [tpucci@hscat1.com](mailto:tpucci@hscat1.com)

**Prospective Bride (Please print)**

Full Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

I prefer you send me registration confirmation via:

E-mail  U.S. Postal Service

Daytime phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Parish: \_\_\_\_\_

Age: \_\_\_\_\_ Religion: \_\_\_\_\_

This is my first marriage: Yes  No

**Prospective Groom (Please print)**

Full Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

I prefer you send me registration confirmation via:

E-mail  U.S. Postal Service

Daytime phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Parish: \_\_\_\_\_

Age: \_\_\_\_\_ Religion: \_\_\_\_\_

This is my first marriage: Yes  No

**Prospective Couple (Please print)**

Date of our wedding: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of our convalidation (if applicable): \_\_\_\_\_

Parish to be married in: \_\_\_\_\_ Presiding clergy: \_\_\_\_\_

Local clergy assisting us in marriage preparation: \_\_\_\_\_  
(if other than presiding clergy)

Name and telephone number: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Which workshop would you like to attend?**

First choice: \_\_\_\_\_ Second choice: \_\_\_\_\_

**Credit/Debit Card (Please print)**

Amount of payment: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of payment: \_\_\_\_\_

Please charge my (check one):  Visa  MasterCard  Discover  American Express

Credit/Debit card #: \_\_\_\_\_

Expiration date: \_\_\_\_\_

Name on card: \_\_\_\_\_

Billing address: (If different from address as written on registration form.)  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

I authorize Holy Spirit Catholic Church to charge my credit card in accordance with the information above.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_