



BOOK ANNOUNCEMENT

To schedule media interviews with John and Teri Bosio or Spirit Juice Studios, or to request images or review copies, contact:

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NEW PROGRAM PREPARES COUPLES FOR THE SACRAMENTAL JOURNEY OF MARRIAGE

NOTRE DAME, Ind.—*Joined by Grace* was developed with one goal in mind: to help engaged couples build strong, life-giving, and lasting unions by inspiring them to welcome God into their marriages more completely.

Offering couples the tools they need for life after their wedding day, *Joined by Grace* shows how the seven sacraments can help build marriages that are rooted in Christ by teaching couples to accept and be fully present to one another, give themselves completely, and serve and forgive each other.

Published by Ave Maria Press—the publisher of *Together for Life* and a leader in marriage ministry for almost 50 years—written by marriage experts John and Teri Bosio, and produced by the Emmy-winning Spirit Juice Studios, *Joined by Grace* provides parish leaders, mentor couples, and engaged couples the most comprehensive, innovative, and up-to-date marriage preparation program for Catholic parishes today and the first to emphasize the connection between marriage and the other six sacraments.

For more than six years, Ave Maria Press listened to the needs, concerns, and desires of parish leaders for engaging, realistic marriage preparation materials based on Catholic Church teaching. And we listened to Pope Francis, bishops, theologians, marriage and family coaches and counselors, and leading researchers on the needs of married couples today. *Joined by Grace* was created from what we heard. The six-session program was piloted by dozens of couples in parishes across the country prior to its release.

The program offers bishops, priests, and deacons the assurance of marriage preparation rooted in Church teaching. Couples will come away with practical knowledge on important topics such as interpersonal communication, finances, sexuality, natural family planning, household management, parenting, careers, and living as Christians in a secularized culture. Mentor couples and diocesan and parish staffs have the flexibility to use the program in a variety of settings, from couple-to-couple meetings to weekend retreats.

The DVD features real married couples filmed unscripted in their homes, sharing stories and insights from their own lives about living the sacraments through good times and bad.

Mentors, marriage ministry coordinators, and engaged couples can find free, ongoing support and resources at JoinedbyGrace.com.



Joined by Grace
*Preparing for the Sacramental
Journey of Marriage*

By John and Teri Bosio

Available only from
Ave Maria Press.

“An excellent tool to help parishes welcome young couples to marriage and prepare them to embrace their Christian vocation.”

MOST REV. DAVID R. CHOBY
BISHOP OF NASHVILLE



ABOUT THE AUTHORS

John and Teri Bosio are active in marriage and family ministry, serving parishes and dioceses across the country. The Bosios lead couples' retreats and family ministry workshops for deacons and priests. The couple has produced two parish-based marriage enrichment programs: *Six Dates for Catholic Couples* and *The Beatitudes: A Couple's Path to Greater Joy*. They are authors of several books, including *Happy Together* and *Blessed is Marriage*.

Spirit Juice Studios is a design studio specializing in film and video production for Catholic entities. Founders Rob Kaczmark and Bernie Szerwinski lead an award-winning team in multimedia projects that are straightforward, functional, and reflect the power of truth, beauty, and goodness of Catholicism.



*“Those getting married today have grown up in a very different culture and have different needs than the engaged couples fifteen or twenty years ago. And the Church has a far better understanding of what our responsibility is toward them as they prepare for marriage. Perhaps most importantly, they need mentors, companions, people in the parish faithfully living out the vocation of Christian marriage whom they can follow as role models and turn to for guidance. *Joined by Grace* is built on the vision of marriage preparation as a ministry of encounter and accompaniment.”*

Excerpt From the *Joined by Grace Program Manual*



PRAISE FOR *JOINED BY GRACE*

“Joined by Grace uses real-life vignettes that draw engaged couples into a deep process of learning and discernment. Solid theology, practical examples, and engaging parishioners together provide a great recipe for a man and a woman who will be joined by grace as they pledge their love for life. I salute John and Teri Bosio for this wonderful work!”

Most Rev. Joseph E. Kurtz
Archbishop of Louisville

“Joined by Grace has proven to be an invaluable resource for the engaged couples we have mentored during the past two years. Because the program is structured around a catechesis on the sacraments, engaged couples grow spiritually. It is a must-have resource. We no longer facilitate marriage preparation without this wonderful book in our tool kit.”

Deacon Paul and Amy Taylor
St. Frances Cabrini Catholic Church
Lebanon, Tennessee

“We saw in both our engaged and mentor couples a definite uptick in their sacramental knowledge and faith. They came away better equipped to live sacramentally, and that is beautiful.”

Rev. Andrew Gawrych, C.S.C.
Former Associate Pastor of Tri-Community Catholic Parish
Colorado Springs, Colorado

*“I have used the *Couple’s Book* over the past two years in preparing seventeen engaged couples for marriage and found the book to be a true blessing. Many of these couples tell me of conversations they have had about important matters that they otherwise would never have had, if not for what they read there. I highly recommend this book for both its practical approach and deep spiritual base.”*

Deacon Mike Catalano
St. Henry Catholic Church
Nashville, Tennessee

SUGGESTED INTERVIEW QUESTIONS:

1. What was the motivation behind creating the *Joined by Grace* program?
2. Why are all of the sacraments important to building lasting marriages?
3. How can mentor and engaged couples get the most out of this groundbreaking program?
4. Is there one characteristic of a healthy marriage in Christ that is the most important?