

Who are the Marriage Preparation Trainers in Wiltshire?

From left to right: Gina & Steve Hobbs who have been married 27 years, Teresa & Stuart Ash who have been married 4 years, and Ruth & Nick Barrett, married for 24 years.



Courses available in Wiltshire in 2012

The following one-day Marriage Preparation courses will be held at St Michael's Convent, Marlowe Avenue, Park North, Swindon, SN3 2PT, from 9:30am to 5:00pm:

Saturday 3rd March, 2012

Saturday 26th May, 2012

Saturday 15th September, 2012

As an alternative, a course will also be held over 3 consecutive Tuesday evenings in June, from 7:30pm to 10:00pm each evening:

Tuesday 12th, Tuesday 19th, and Tuesday 26th June, 2012

A fee of £40 per couple will be charged for course expenses and refreshments. Advance payment is not required - you may pay by cash or cheque (payable to Marriage Care Wiltshire) on the day of the course.

Enrolment

Each Marriage Preparation course is limited to 10 couples, so please enrol as early as possible using the online form at www.swindoncatholicdeanery.co.uk under the Marriage Preparation section. Alternatively, you can enrol by completing printing the enrolment form available on the website and sending it to Steve & Gina Hobbs at 43 Green Road, Swindon, SN2 7JB, or by phoning Steve & Gina to request a copy.

Questions?

Contact Steve or Gina Hobbs on 01793 823971 or via email at: steve@hobbsfamily.org.uk
For general enquiries about Marriage Care Wiltshire, please call 0800 389 3801.



Brochure edition date: 10th December, 2011

MARRIAGE care



MARRIAGE PREPARATION for 2012

One-day courses
designed and
delivered by



For couples
in the
Wiltshire
area



Time to
focus on
your
future
together

What is Marriage Preparation?

Marriage preparation is a proven way of helping you as a couple to become more aware of the nature of your relationship now, enabling you to identify familiar patterns of behaviour and negotiate likely changes in your marriage in the future.

Marriage preparation allows you to explore, in a confidential and secure environment, the partnership tasks which you will be committing to in marriage.

The route towards commitment requires you both to be aware of the people, events and influences which have helped to shape your lives so far. In a marriage preparation course, you are encouraged to explore these influences, and to recognise the quality of friendship and intimacy which you share. You may also explore the considerable change in attitude which can come as you move towards commitment, tapping naturally into your developing spirituality.

The interaction with other couples in a marriage preparation course helps you realise that your experience of being a couple is an ongoing creative process, unique to the two of you. The course should be challenging and fun!

Who are *Marriage Care*?

Marriage Care is a national Catholic charity whose aim is to support marriage at all stages of development, and whose work in the service of life-long faithful relationships remains as relevant today as it was when it began more than half a century ago. *Marriage Care* sees marriage preparation as an effective and necessary investment in the future stability of families and our society.

Marriage Care offers marriage preparation courses nationwide. In each local area, courses are conducted in co-operation with local Catholic churches and others who are helping couples to get ready for their wedding and for married life. The courses are intended to be an integral component of the whole pastoral service to couples entering marriage, and complements the sacramental preparation provided within parishes.

Our primary concern is for your long-term well-being as a couple.



The Marriage Preparation Course

Informal, participative, relaxed

- ♥ The course encourages you to explore your own relationship and to become more aware of yourselves, what you are bringing to your marriage, and the way in which your relationship works.
- ♥ The course material concentrates on the three key areas of Communication, Conflict Management and Commitment – see below.
- ♥ All courses involve a mix of exercises, personal inputs, questionnaires, video, presentations and group discussions. Lunch will be provided.

- ♥ You can expect a full day of contact time with the marriage preparation team, who are all trained by *Marriage Care*.
- ♥ Courses are entirely confidential. Sensitive issues are handled with care and consideration.
- ♥ The courses are open to people from all faiths and belief systems, or none.

The 3 C's

Over the years, research and experience have shown that the 3'C's - Communication, Conflict Management and Commitment - are key to sustaining successful relationships. These three areas are essential to each *Marriage Care* marriage preparation course.

- ♥ **COMMUNICATION:** you look at how relationships develop and grow, and become aware of how your own upbringing will have contributed to the attitudes and values which you hold and are bringing to the marriage.
- ♥ **CONFLICT MANAGEMENT:** you are helped to recognise areas of difference and potential conflict and are offered some strategies on how to manage these in the future.
- ♥ **COMMITMENT:** you explore how to nurture each other and your marriage, and examine other areas of commitment in your life together.