

# ***Conferences for Engaged Couples: Questions for Discussion***

## *The Meaning of Married Love*

- 1. Evaluate what was positive and what was negative in your own experiences of marriage and family life. How have these experiences shaped your expectations?**
- 2. Do you and your future spouse share a vision of marriage as a lifelong gift of self that is faithful and open to life? Are you both committed to building a strong relationship in which God plays a central part?**
- 3. What new or ongoing challenges does your friendship with your future spouse face? What sacrifices have you been willing to make? Are there any warning signs or challenges in your relationship?**

## *Communication & Intimacy*

- 4. Are you able to share your deepest thoughts and feelings? Are you both committed to maintaining and improving your communication?**
- 5. What obstacles to good communication have you encountered in your relationship? How have you been able to deal with them?**
- 6. Finally, list five to ten ways in which your future spouse can concretely express his/her love for you on a regular basis.**

## *Sexuality & Children*

- 7. How have you both been able to handle sexual feelings in your relationship? How do you show affection to one another?**
- 8. Are you both committed to giving yourselves totally and to welcoming children with prudence and generosity? How are you both committed to expressing your sexuality in a healthy and moral way? Have you discussed natural family planning?**
- 9. How will you raise your children in the Catholic faith? Or, if a non-Catholic, are you comfortable with your future spouse's responsibility to do so? Do you need to discuss other religious differences?**

## *Partnership & Sacrament*

- 10. How do you envision your roles as husband and wife, mother and father? How will you share your responsibilities at home?**
- 11. How will the work outside the home be at the service of your family life and not a detriment to it? How will you handle your possessions with a sense of stewardship?**
- 12. How has your relationship been open to God's grace? Have you grown closer to one another and to Christ? Have you made it a practice to pray together?**