

# *Pre Cana* - A Revolutionary LOOK at Married LOVE

A Day of Marriage Preparation based on Pope John Paul II's biblical vision of married love:  
*Theology of the Body*



*Do you know . . . ?*

What the church *really* teaches about marriage?

What the church *really* teaches about sex?

What the church *really* teaches about having children?

What the church *really* teaches about money and parenting?

The one perfect way you can love your spouse?

The four steps to a great marriage?

How to find the deepest level of satisfaction in every area of your life together?

## **ABOUT THEOLOGY OF THE BODY**

*Theology of the Body* is the working title given to a revolutionary teaching by Pope John Paul II described as a “profoundly beautiful vision of human embodiment, sexuality, marriage and celibacy.” It has been called “ONE OF THE BOLDEST RECONFIGURATIONS OF CATHOLIC THEOLOGY IN CENTURIES” (George Weigel, author of *Witness to Hope – The Biography of Pope John Paul II*).

The Pope says, “Far from being a footnote in the Christian life, the way we understand the body and the sexual relationship concerns the whole Bible; Christ’s mission, according to the spousal analogy in the Scriptures, is to “marry” us. He invites us to live with Him in an eternal life-giving union of love.” (TOB 68:8 and 49:3) **This is what the union of the sexes is meant to proclaim and foreshadow—the eternal union of Christ and His Bride, the Church.** This is not some distant, theoretical position . . . It leads us to understand OUR INNERMOST IDENTITY AND CALLING as male and female, how to love each other rightly, and how to find our deepest level of personal happiness and holiness, especially within the sacrament of marriage.

## YOUR FACILITATOR

Rose Sweet is a Catholic author and teacher who speaks from her heart. Her published books—available in several languages—include *Dear God Send Me a Soul Mate*, *How to Be First in a Second Marriage*, and *Healing the Heartbreak of Divorce*. Rose has appeared on national radio and television programs and speaks to groups all across the country on topics that include, dating and singlehood, marriage, step- parenting, divorce, and remarriage—all from the perspective of Pope John Paul II’s *Theology of the Body* and all in accord with the teaching Magisterium of the Catholic Church.

Rose has been single, married, divorced and remarried. She completed and understands the annulment process and currently serves as a Lay Advocate with the San Bernardino diocesan marriage tribunal. Rose enjoys working with couples in helping them understand what must be present in the marriage for it to be able to rise to the level of a sacrament.

Rose says, “Most Catholics have no idea of what the church really teaches about love, sex and marriage. If they did, they would get down and kiss the ground in thanksgiving, as I have done, for being Catholic. Get ready for a revolution in the way you think about these things . . . I love sharing the truth about the church with engaged couples!”

## WHAT PEOPLE ARE SAYING ABOUT ROSE

“Rose is a beautiful example of what Pope John Paul the Great called feminine genius.”

- **Christopher West, Author** – *Theology of the Body for Beginners, Heaven’s Song; Sexual Love as It Was Meant to Be, A Love that Lasts*

"Rose, your 'Seven Stages of Divine Marriage' are theologically right on!"

- **Msgr. James C. Kidder**, Sacramento Diocese

"Thank you, Rose, for saying what most people don't have the courage to say. Your words touched me right where I needed it."

- **Shana Graham, Mrs. California 2001 and 2002**

"I was absolutely and personally pleased with your presentation at Notre Dame this summer. I would really like you to speak at our West Coast gatherings."

- **Irene Varley - Natl Cath Divorce Ministry**

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## SCHEDULE

DATES: Friday night and all day Saturday FEBRUARY 19 & 20, 2010

TIME: Fri—7-9 pm  
Sat— 9– 5 pm

PLACE: Sacred Heart Parish – St. Theresa Room (Next to church office)  
43-775 Deep Cyn Rd. (At Fred Waring Drive)  
Palm Desert CA 92260  
go to church website for directions ([www.sacredheartpalmdesert.com](http://www.sacredheartpalmdesert.com))

**COST:** \$ 250.00 per couple includes Handouts, CDs, books, coffee/sodas/ LUNCH

**Yow!! Why so much? NO MATTER HOW “IN LOVE” YOU ARE TODAY , YOU FACE A 50% DIVORCE RATE.**

You are about to be guided into life-changing truths that will affect your whole future together. **The average cost of a wedding cake in the United States is OVER \$500!** (what about flowers, the photographer, the clothes!?) **The spiritual side of your wedding is the MOST IMPORTANT...does it make sense to skimp on it??**

**TO REGISTER:** Call Rose Sweet (760) 346-9401 or email [RoseSweet523@aol.com](mailto:RoseSweet523@aol.com)

Please Note: This is an important investment in your married life. Couple MUST be on time and stay until Saturday at 5 pm. Late entry will be denied and you'll have to reschedule for the next event.

## WHAT TO EXPECT

### FRIDAY EVENING

Take the FOCCUS inventory; meet your Facilitator, get the course overview, get acquainted with other couples and enjoy frank and informative Q & A.

### FOCCUS Inventory

Not really a test, but a guide to help you and your fiancée discover areas of strengths and weaknesses so you can strengthen your relationship. Your sheets will be scored and later you'll have short follow up meeting at church to go over your results.

### SATURDAY MORNING

Coffee and conversation to start; you'll be given your notebooks, handouts and other materials that you'll take home. Then we start right in with *Marriage in the Church*. Be prepared to throw away all your preconceived ideas!

### Marriage in THE CHURCH

We'll start with some basics that most Catholics know but may not have thought of for awhile. *Don't worry...you will not be asked to reveal anything personal during the day. No one will try to interfere with your private lives.*

### **Introduction to the Spousal Analogy**

We'll explore the Old Testament stories and New Testament imagery of the "spousal analogy"; where God reveals Himself to be like a Husband to His people, where Christ comes as the Bridegroom and how heaven is described as the eternal wedding feast.

### **Revisiting the word "Sacrament"**

We tend to think that sacraments are something Catholics do in church, but they are much, much more, with very real effects in both the material and spiritual realms. They are mysterious and mystical and not unlike Dorothy's Ruby Slippers . . . Stay tuned for more!

### **The Four Steps to a Perfect Marriage**

Out of sheer and overflowing love for us, Christ came to show us exactly how to be "married". John Paul the Great tells us that Christ "fully reveals man to himself"...Jesus shows us how to be happy. *Theology of the Body* recaps the four steps that every couple can follow for True Love.

### **LUNCH**

You'll pre-order your lunch in the morning and it will be delivered at noon. Please let us know in advance if you have any special dietary needs.

### **Marriage in THE BEDROOM**

Once couples understand the four steps of how to love rightly (as Christ loves His Bride), we'll explore the power and significance of the sexual relationship within marriage. Frank but tasteful discussion from a faithful Catholic perspective that will answer *any* question you have!

### **Why Not?**

This session will include honest answers to the questions people might have about the church's teachings in all matters of sexual morality (including sex before marriage, pornography, homosexuality, contraception, in vitro fertilization and more).

### **Marriage at HOME**

We'll cover Principles, Priorities and Practices within marriage that will help with money, kids, parenting, the in-laws, communication styles and .and how to keep Christ at the center of your marriage.

### **Marriage at MASS**

Learn the exciting reality of the marital dimension hidden in the Catholic liturgy. Once you learn the *Seven Stages of Divine Marriage*, you'll never experience the Mass (or your marriage) the same way again!

**During the event you will receive the following:**

**Pre- Cana workbook**

**Copy of *Good News About Sex and Marriage: Answers to you honest questions about Catholic teachings*—Christopher West**

**Catholic CDs (NFP and more)**

**Resource List (Catholic websites on money, parenting, counseling, etc.)**

**After the Event**

**You'll schedule a 30-minute appt. with Rose for about 2 weeks after the weekend to go over the results of your FOCCUS inventory.**

**CERTIFICATE OF COMPLETION ISSUED AFTER THE POST-CLASS FOCCUS APPT.**

**Rose Sweet, Facilitator**

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