

Practical Tips/Action Steps

(How to promote an atmosphere of love and life in your parish)

1. Invite Fr. Dan McCaffrey, Fr. Richard Hogan, or Fr. Matthew Habiger to speak at all Masses at your parish. If you are uncomfortable with issues of sex and marriage, let one of them do the talking. They preach all around the U.S. every weekend. They are eager to proclaim Truth and to challenge your congregation. Call 1-888-NFP-6383. Better yet, schedule an entire parish mission for the family.
2. In the back of church, set out brochures from One More Soul and the CD by Prof. Janet Smith, *Contraception: Why Not*. (Approximately 1,000,000 are in circulation.) Put a huge sign out that says: “FREE—TAKE ONE!” You never know who is going to pick that up. This CD changes lives!
3. In the bulletin, *From the Pastor’s Pen*, write on the beauty of marriage, NFP, and insights from the Theology of the Body. Include testimonies in your bulletin from married couples. This is a very strong witness and encourages couples to know that it is possible to live this Truth!
4. Offer websites in your bulletin. Here, people can privately begin to search for some answers and gain healing: www.omsoul.com www.christopherwest.com www.ccli.org www.creightonmodel.com www.hopeafterabortion.com www.omsoul.com/nfp-links.php www.omsoul.com/pro-life-links.php www.omsoul.com/nfp-only.php.
5. Announce when and where Natural Family Planning classes are available. Have this information in your bulletin ALL THE TIME!
6. Get with parishes in your Deanery and invite speakers to come. Bring in Christopher West! Offer babysitting so that husbands and wives may attend together.
7. Attend a seminar. There are many wonderful opportunities available. The Couple to Couple League sponsors a Clergy Seminar every year. Call (513) 471-2000. Christopher West teaches at the Theology of the Body Institute at various times throughout the year and offers week-long seminars. Call (610) 696-7795 ext. 206. Classes are available from the Pope Paul VI Institute as well.
8. Promote books to your congregation regarding family life, moral issues, and the “Good News” about sex and marriage. (Feature a “Book of the Month” within your parish and incorporate it into your homilies.)
9. Pray. . . . Pray, pray for holy marriages. **Let your parishioners know that you are fervently praying for them to seek Truth and to be open to the teachings of the Church. Let them know that you are praying for holy families.** This speaks volumes!

This list may be copied freely as a handout.