

CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF PUEBLO FOUNDATION: *Your World Is Changing*

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Catholic Diocese of Pueblo Foundation
SPECIAL TO THE CHRONICLE OF CATHOLIC LIFE

Do you remember the open land you used to drive by only a few years ago? Now that land is a subdivision full of homes. How you usually heard about family members or friends through letters in the mail, or when calling someone "long-distance" was a big deal and usually expensive?

One thing is for certain, time changes everything. Even as we age, most of us are forced to keep up with the changes. One area that often gets overlooked is our personal plans for the future.

The Catholic Diocese of Pueblo Foundation encourages you to take a moment as the end of the year draws near to review your will or if you haven't written one, take the time to do so. Life changes quickly and it could have been years since you first put a will together. Have you married or become widowed? Do you have new children or grandchildren in your life? Is there a family member in your will who has since passed away? Have you changed your mind about which assets to give to certain people?

If you answered yes to any of these questions it is time for you to revise your will.

Since your will was written, you have probably ex-



perienced some financial changes. You may have more assets that you realize because certain major responsibilities, such as a child's college education, are now paid for. Have you paid off your mortgage? These additional assets need to be allocated among existing beneficiaries or earmarked for a new heir.

Do you remember who is named in your will as your personal representative? If not, now is a good time to look over your will. Your personal representative will be in charge of settling your estate. This is an important job and you want to put care and thought into choosing someone who is capable and willing to handle all of the duties. Make sure the person you chose is aware of your wishes and desires.

Your children are the most important thing in your life. You have probably spent many hours considering who you would like to raise them if something happened to you. But if it has been awhile since you prepared your will you may want to re-examine your choice.

Is the person you chose still suitable? Have they

moved far away? Make sure your choice is still capable and willing to raise your children.

Have you moved to another state since your will was prepared? You may want to have your will reviewed under the laws of Colorado, sometimes alterations are necessary.

Changes to your will don't mean you have to start all over. Most changes can be made with a simple amendment called a codicil. A codicil is a legal term for an addition to your will. Codicils must be executed with the same formalities as your will in order to be valid.

Do you have a great love for your local parish, Catholic schools or other Catholic programs?

If so you may want to consider revising your will to include a bequest to those charities through the Catholic Diocese of Pueblo Foundation. You may want to recognize someone special to you through a memorial or honorary gift in your will. You can make a gift to the Foundation that will pay tribute to your loved one in a lasting and meaningful way and it will leave a legacy to a Catholic organization of your choice.

**The Catholic Diocese of Pueblo Foundation
can be contacted at 1-800-354-2729 ext. 131.**

2007 SWLC schedule set

OKLAHOMA CITY, OK - In Genesis, we hear the wonderful story, telling us how God, in His great love, created the world. When the heavens and earth and all their array were completed, God looked at everything He had made, and found it very good. Since on the seventh day God was finished with the work He had been doing, He rested on the seventh day. So God blessed the seventh day and made it holy.

Pope John Paul II commented on this aspect of creation: "The divine rest on the seventh day does not allude to an inactive God, but emphasizes the fullness of what has been accomplished. It speaks, as it were, of God lingering before the 'very good' work which his hand has wrought in order to cast upon it a gaze full of joyous delight." (*Apostolic Letter Dies Domini*)

This is the essence of the third commandment given by God at Mount Sinai. The Hebrews were told: "Remember the Sabbath day in order to keep it holy." Just as God "rested" to savor the beauty of creation, the Hebrews were to rest once a week so that they, too, could remember and celebrate the marvels which God had brought about. Because creation was brought to its fulfillment by Christ's resurrection, it seemed natural for the members of the early Church to see Sunday, the day of resurrection, as the new *Dies Domini*, the new Day of the Lord. And so, even today, we are called to keep holy the Lord's day. We are called to remember and celebrate the marvels God has done, especially giving us his Son, Jesus Christ, to be our savior.

In January, representatives from the Diocese of Pueblo will go to Oklahoma City for the 45th Annual Southwest Liturgical Conference Study Week, "*Dies Domini: Sunday, the Day of the Lord*," to listen to and dialogue with scholars, colleagues, and co-workers in liturgy and catechesis about the meaning of Sunday, the Day of the Lord, and what it means to "*Keep Holy the Lord's Day*." There will be five major addresses, 44 workshops, and other daily activities held throughout this event, as well as many exhibits.

Major speakers include: Rev. Paul A. Holmes, S.T.D., Vice President and Interim Dean of the Whitehead School of Diplomacy at Seton Hall University; Rev. Jan Michael Joncas, Associate Professor, Departments of Catholic Studies and Theology; Msgr. Kevin W. Irwin, Dean of the School of Theology and Religious Studies at The Catholic University of America; Pat Kerwin, director of Spirituality in Ministry for the Sisters of Charity of the Incarnate Word; and Bill Huebsch, President and Publisher of Twenty-Third Publications.

The Archdiocese of Oklahoma City invites all to also come celebrate the statehood centennial. The Study Week will be held at the Cox Business Services Convention Center in the heart of a revitalized downtown.



Rev. Paul A. Holmes, STD



Rev. Jan Joncas



Msgr. Kevin W. Irwin



Pat Kerwin



Bill Huebsch

Marriage Encounter sets 2007 schedule, special events

PUEBLO - Candles softly burning. Romantic music playing in the background. Favorite meal and beverage on the table. Kids out of sight, being baby-sat for awhile so that the two of us can have a special night of togetherness and intimacy without interruption and distraction. As we look into each other's eyes, and hold hands, something is not

quite right. That awkward silence hangs between us, like a cold damp barrier. Beyond jobs, kids, activities and the weather, what is there to talk about? What has happened to us? We've become strangers. Have we fallen out of love? What happened to those days when we spent hours in each other's arms, just talking about things, dreaming, planning, getting to know each other and enjoying being together? Are we so familiar with each other that there's nothing left to talk about? Maybe the struggle and routine of our daily grind have extinguished the fire that once existed in our relationship.

Does this scenario sound all too familiar? Many couples experience a similar stage in their marriage — that disappointed, deflated feeling when we realize that "The honeymoon is over" and the romance is gone.

This does not have to be the end of your marriage — joy is just around the corner. A deeper, more intimate joy is possible, a joy that goes beyond the feelings of romance and infatuation that originally brought you together. One way to discover that joy is by learning techniques to deepen and enliven your communication and intimacy as offered by the Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend ("ME"). Marriage Encounter has been around since 1968 and is for couples with good marriages who want to make them better. Thousands of couples, priests and religious have attended the weekend and experienced a renewed sense of hope, joy, and commitment in their sacramental relationships. You probably know couples in your parish, at work or in your neighborhood who have made an ME weekend.

Maybe now is the time to consider attending a Marriage Encounter Weekend — for the sake of your marriage, for the sake of your family & friends, and for the sake of our Church.

Yes, a strengthened marriage affects more than just the two of you. Just as the ripples caused by divorce travel far and wide, so too the power of a couple with a strong and happy marriage affects everyone within their community who sees reflected in their love for each other, the love of Christ for the Church. The world needs that kind of love, now more than ever! It's easy to put off making a weekend because of how busy your lives are. To be honest, you'll never find the time, but you can decide to make the time.

Think about this: if you've been married for 10 years,



Joe and Linda Oppelt



Jody and Nicole Wireman

you have had 520 weekends together. Take ONE for your relationship.

A Marriage Encounter Weekend is the beginning to a stronger, deeper love relationship. But it is only the beginning. Communication techniques and intimacy gained on the weekend need the



support of other couples in order to be maintained. That is why the presence of a Marriage Encounter community is so important to couples making the weekend. Maybe you are one of those couples who have already made a weekend, and were even involved in community for a time, but other things gradually took over and now the weekend is only a fond memory. Have you considered making another ME weekend? As our lives change it's so easy to lose focus on us, on our relationship. Another weekend might renew your marriage in a totally different way than your original weekend did. We give our cars regular maintenance — why not give your marriage a "tune-up"?

Whether this will be your first weekend or a second or third, please consider attending one of the four upcoming weekends for Southern Colorado in 2007: January 19-21, April 20-22, July 20-22 and October 19-21.

All weekends are held in Colorado Springs at "The Best Western Academy Hotel" at Exit 150 of I-25. To register for any of these weekends please call 719-591-9045 or go to the website for Southern Colorado Marriage Encounter: www.marriageencounter.net and click on the top right side of the page where it says "Register now". A deposit of \$50 holds your place on the weekend, and you will have a chance to make a free-will donation toward the cost of the weekend on Sunday afternoon. The amount is up to you. We never want money to come in the way of any couple making a weekend. Weekends begin Friday night at 8 p.m. and continue through Sunday afternoon until about 4 p.m. The weekend is presented by three couples and a priest and is a private experience for both couples and religious attending. There is no group sharing. For more details, please visit the web site listed above.

The Southern Colorado Marriage Encounter Community would also like to invite all married couples and their families, whether encountered or not, to a celebration of marriage in honor of World Marriage Day in February. On February 10, from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. please join us at Holy Apostles Parish Hall, 4925 N. Carefree Circle in Colorado Springs, for a Wedding Reception Dance. The cost is only \$10 per family. Please bring an appetizer, kid friendly food or dessert to share. (Please, no alcohol.) Everyone is welcome but space is limited! To ensure your spot please contact Jake and Catherine at 719-481-5878, cgriesbac@msn.com.

