

Student Feedback



In marriage and family life we can often find that we are too busy coping with the challenges and distractions of daily living, whilst losing sight of the wonderful gifts both are. The Catechesis and Marriage and Family course has opened up for me the rich seams of Scripture, Church Teaching and other pastoral insights on the practicalities of marriage and family. It has provided me with a framework with which to assess the nature and onward journey of my own life/marriage/family as well as new insights in the delivery of the marriage and family life ministry. In particular, the ease and simplicity of presentation of John Paul II's Theology of the Body is a great benefit. The course book made this complex area of teaching both accessible and actionable. In addition, the clarity of presentation on the role of society within the life of the Church and wider society was splendid. I feel better equipped to respond with a positive narrative to many of the discordant attitudes and ideas in the public sphere.

FE Student 2019 – Westminster (A Catechesis on Marriage and Family)



I thoroughly enjoyed the course which gifted me with a much deeper understanding of the Church's wonderful teaching on marriage and the family. Through the completion of the assignments, I was exposed to the breadth and depth of the riches to be discovered through reading the course materials and extra reading and the research that continually beckoned... and I get the distinct impression that I have only 'dipped my toes in the water'! All this was unlocked by the very encouraging, enthusiastic and committed presenters of the two modules and the online assistance, whenever needed. It was truly a great joy and privilege to have done the course.."

FE Student - 2018 (A Catechesis on Marriage & Family)



I found the course very useful in helping me to learn about the Church's documents that support my own beliefs and understanding of what the Church actually teaches about Marriage and Family. This was beneficial in helping me substantiate my sharing by giving people the teaching of the Church so that more people will understand the reasons for the Church's stand on certain issues. Besides that, it has helped me to better appreciate my spouse and our children and made me more committed to spending more time with them. I am also more committed to transmitting this faith to my children because I realised that it was my parents who transmitted it to me."

FE Student - 2018 (A Catechesis on Marriage & Family)

For more information you may contact Anna Dupelycz, Agency for Evangelisation, Vaughan House, 46, Francis Street, London, SW1P 1QN. Tel 020 7798 9026

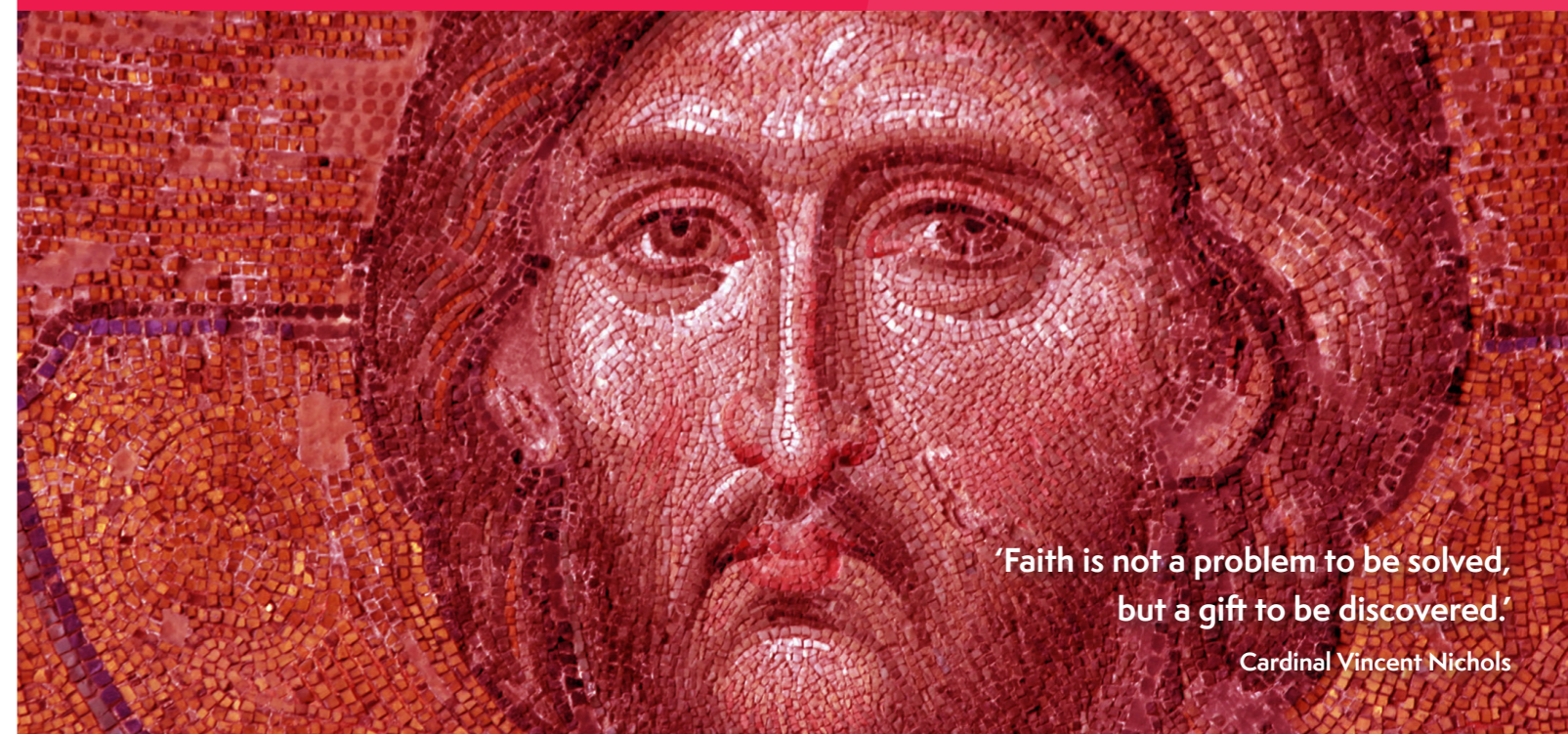


Diocese of Westminster

AGENCY FOR EVANGELISATION
MARRIAGE AND FAMILY LIFE

'LEARN FROM ME'

Matthew 11:29



'Faith is not a problem to be solved,
but a gift to be discovered.'

Cardinal Vincent Nichols

A CATECHESIS ON MARRIAGE AND FAMILY
MARYVALE INSTITUTE, INTERNATIONAL CATHOLIC
DISTANCE LEARNING COLLEGE



A Formation Programme For All Involved In Parish Ministry.
A Partnership between the Agency for Evangelisation,
Diocese of Westminster and the Maryvale Institute.

Who is the programme aimed at?

This course will be of interest to anyone who wishes to understand the teaching of the Catholic Church on marriage and family and its relationship to the New Evangelization. It offers a wonderful opportunity for a renewed personal encounter with the Faith and is particularly helpful for those involved in marriage preparation and accompaniment, and family and youth ministry.

What are the entry requirements?

Completion of the Application Form and acceptance by the Institute.

Programme Structure

This is a six-month distance-learning course. There are two modules and two study days. The planned study days for 2020 are 7th March and 20th June, both taking place at Vaughan House.

When is the next enrolment?

Information evening Thursday 23rd January 2020, 7.30pm – 9.00pm

Vaughan House, 46, Francis Street SW1P 1QN

or use the online application form at <https://maryvale.ac.uk/catechesis-on-marriage-and-family>

Fees

£ 455

£ 25 Registration fee

How do I apply?

Please fill in the application form which is enclosed in this folder and please return the completed form, together with non-returnable application fee of £25.00, to:

Linda Beirne, Course Administrator, A Catechesis on Marriage and Family, Maryvale Institute, Old Oscott Hill, Kingstanding, Birmingham B44 9AG

Or use the online application form at maryvale.ac.uk/catechesis-on-marriage-and-family

Email: mfcadmin@maryvale.ac.uk Tel: 0044 (0) 121 360 8118

For more information please contact your parish priest or Anna Dupelycz at the Agency for Evangelisation at annadupelycz@rcdow.org.uk or 020 7798 9026.

Module 1 : Marriage

Chapter 1 | The course begins by looking at **Marriage and Family Today**. This includes an examination of the challenges facing marriage and family and the response to those challenges both within the Church and wider society.

Chapter 2 | **Marriage and Family as a Witness to Love**. Here the focus is on the relationship between our understanding of the Faith and the lived witness to the Faith in the New Evangelization. This lived witness is the fruit of a personal encounter with God's love revealed in Jesus Christ. This encounter is very important for understanding marriage and family as a living image of Divine Love.

Chapter 3 | **God's Plan for Human Love – 'Marriage in the Beginning'**. This plan is revealed in the creation of man – male and female – in the 'image and likeness of God'. The truth about who we are as men and women (anthropological truth) is intrinsically bound to the truth about who God is (theological truth).

Chapter 4 | **Human Love is Redeemed - the Sacrament of Marriage**. Human love is rendered fragile by Original Sin and personal sin. It is in need of redemption. Our ability to love is healed by God's own Love given to us through His Son. We need God's grace in order to love. Here we study the relationship between Baptism, the Eucharist and the Sacrament of Marriage.

Chapter 5 | **Marriage – a lifelong journey together in love**. In this chapter, we look at the concrete experience of love in marriage: from falling in love, to marriage preparation, to the different stages on the journey – the joys and challenges. It is in and through the journey that we 'learn how to love' and in doing so live out the truth of our humanity, created in the 'image and likeness' of a God who 'is Love'.

Module 2 : Family

In this Module we learn why God's design for the family is the source of blessing for the world, and the heart of the New Evangelization. Five chapters explore the Christian vision of the family as a community of faith, hope and love that is revealed in Creation, redeemed in Christ and central to the 'transformation and renewal of the world'.

Chapter 1 Good News of the Family. This chapter presents an overview of the Gospel – or 'good news' of the family. It also examines some of the challenges currently facing the family, and the Church's response in the New Evangelization.

Chapter 2 The Family and God's Covenant of Love looks at the identity of the family in Scripture as the bearer of God's blessing through the generations. Three principles from Genesis offer the foundation for understanding the family's mission of love and life: 1) blessing or gift; 2) unity; and 3) fruitfulness.

Chapter 3 Looks at **The Family as Domestic Church** so that it becomes the Church of the Home. We learn how the family plays its part in extending to the whole world the blessings of belonging to God's 'New Covenant Family': divine adoption, holy communion and eternal life in the Kingdom.

Chapter 4 on **The Mission of the Family as a school of humanity and a school of love** examines the way the family shares in the Church's saving mission, as a 'school of humanity' and a 'school of love'. Christian parents have the sacred task of communicating the Gospel to their children and mediating God's unconditional love. This chapter explores the missionary vocation of the family as a witness to life, a witness to love, and a witness to faith.

Chapter 5 on **The Family - A Journey of Love** presents various aspects of the spirituality of the family as it travels with Christ on a path of love and communion. We look at family discipleship and see why spiritual growth comes through a lifestyle of 'covenant love and fidelity', a life-giving love that reaches out beyond itself in welcome and solidarity.

Assignment

At the end of each module, there is an **assessment**. Assessment will be by written assignments, one for each module, which will allow each student to demonstrate the fruits of his/her study and personal reflection.

Resources needed

A Bible, The Catechism of the Catholic Church, Access to the Documents of the Church's Magisterium