

## Announcing

### World Marriage Day Second February

Greetings from the North American World Marriage  
Day National Coordinating Ecclesial Team

In these changing times we are excited that the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops published a pastoral letter on marriage in November 2009 placing more emphasis on the important Sacrament of Matrimony.

We humbly ask, with great hope, that you will review the information on their website and use whatever fits your needs. The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops ([www.usccb.org](http://www.usccb.org)) continues to place emphasis on the importance of the Sacrament of Matrimony in the life of the church today through the [www.foryourmarriage.org](http://www.foryourmarriage.org) website. We encourage all to view the “For Your Marriage” website and go to the USCCB website ([www.usccb.org](http://www.usccb.org)) to download, read and incorporate the Pastoral Letter into our daily lives.

Twenty eight years ago, Worldwide Marriage Encounter began encouraging a celebration of marriage on the second Sunday of February. In 1983 it was designated World Marriage Day as a day to honor the husband and wife as head of the family, the basic unit of society. It salutes the beauty of their faithfulness, sacrifice and joy in daily married life.

It is especially exciting to announce that World Marriage Day 2011 will be on February 13 the day before Saint Valentine’s Day! We hope every parish will celebrate this day in simple or elaborate ways. Whatever is done will bring the significance of the Sacrament of Marriage to center stage for one important day and is most appreciated.

We are pleased to offer several additional suggestions for celebrating World Marriage Day 2011 on the following websites. Several suggestions for celebrating World Marriage Day can be found at [www.wmd.wwme.org](http://www.wmd.wwme.org) and we also invite you to please review the information on the site and use whatever fits your needs. The following link offers a downloadable packet for **World Marriage Day Clergy/Family Life Package** <http://wmd.wwme.org/downloads/FamLifeClergyPkg-En-2010.pdf> and for the **Celebration Planning Package** go to <http://wmd.wwme.org/downloads/CelebPlan-En-2010.pdf> for help and ideas for your Area to get started.

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