

Diocesan Study Days
Day 1—Tuesday, November 5, 2019

9 AM—9:30 AM

Doors open, registration

9:30 AM—9:45 AM

Opening Prayer & Greeting

9:45 AM—10:45 AM

Review of the Essence of Church Documents and Teachings Regarding the Sanctity of Life- Michel MacDonald (EN), Executive Director of the Catholic Organization for Life and Family (COLF)

Opening session with the goal of setting the stage for the themes that will be presented during the next two days. The key points are to present an overview of Evangelium Vitae (or other key documents) and to share the Church teachings regarding the sanctity of life.

10:45 AM—11 AM

Break

11 AM—12 PM

Apologetics Regarding the End of Life—Michel MacDonald (FR), Executive Director of the Catholic Organization for Life and Family (COLF)

Apologetics favouring palliative care treatments and answering tough questions about why not to choose MAID. Participants will learn how to share this viewpoint with others in a loving and convincing way.

12 PM—1 PM

Lunch Break

1 PM—2 PM

Advance Care Directives & MAID—Katarina Lee (EN), Clinical Ethicist at the St. Boniface Hospital

Insights on what Catholic health care directives look like and the importance of having them will be presented. Participants will also be able to gain a better understanding of the current process for MAID.

2 PM—2:15 PM

Break

(Move into separate rooms)

2:15 PM—3:25 PM

Panel Discussion (FR/EN)

Panel discussion will take place in both languages. Health care professionals or volunteers in palliative care will share personal experiences. Panellists will offer their opinion on how the Church can better support individuals and their family during this time. Time permitting, participants will be invited to ask questions.

3:25 PM—3:30 PM

Break

(Move into main room)

3:30 PM—4:00 PM

Wrap-up Session - Evaluations

Diocesan Study Days
Day 2—Wednesday, November 6, 2019

9 AM—9:30 AM

Doors open, registration

9:30 AM—10:30 AM

Mass

10:30 AM—10:45 AM

Break

(Move into main room with booths)

10:45 AM—11:45 AM

Apologetics—Beginning of Life—Michel MacDonald (FR), Executive Director of the Catholic Organization for Life and Family (COLF)

Apologetics concerning choosing life and offering guidance in situations of concern for health of the mother, fetal disability, terminal diagnoses, in vitro technologies, gene selection. Participants will learn to share this pro-life viewpoint in a loving and convincing way.

11:45 AM—12:45 PM

Lunch Break

(with booths)

12:45 PM—1:45 PM

Called to Intimacy in the Face of Life and Death—Worldwide Marriage Encounter (EN)

Worldwide Marriage Encounter will offer an interactive session which will include dialogue, songs and prayer. This is an example of the marriage enrichment sessions that could be offered in parishes.

1:45 PM—1:55 PM

Break

(Move into separate rooms)

1:55 PM—2:25 PM

Introduction to Natural Family Planning (NFP) (FR/EN)

A presentation explaining how NFP does indeed work to regulate pregnancies. Which will be followed by short introductions to the different methods according to the different needs. The participants will gain knowledge on where to refer couples according to their specific needs.

2:30 PM—3:20 PM

Panel Discussion (FR/EN)

Panel discussion will take place in both languages. Panellists will share personal experiences regarding the use of NFP. How tough situations (pregnancy loss or infertility) or the use of NFP affect relationships with God, the parish and spouse. What did or do the panellists need from the Church regarding these topics? Time permitting, participants will be invited to ask questions.

3:20 PM—3:30 PM

Break

(Move into main room)

3:30 PM—4:00 PM

Closing Session— Evaluations