



A Look Back on the Breathe Catholic Marriage Conference

The Marriage, Family & Life Office of the Archdiocese of Saint Boniface together with the Archdiocese of Winnipeg, and the Marriage & Family Ministry of St. Emile Parish were pleased to offer The Breathe Catholic Marriage Conference March 17 and 18, 2023 at St. Emile Parish. Over 60 couples were in attendance at the conference, to refresh, recharge and renew their marriage.

The speakers, Denise & Gerald Montpetit and John & Tracy Connelly both hailing from Bruno, Saskatchewan, shared life-giving messages, engaging stories and practical tools to help couples build a stronger more, more joyful, and Faith-filled marriage. Archbishop Albert LeGatt, Archbishop Richard Gagnon and Father Gerry Sembrano



Tracy and John Connelly

offered their ministry during numerous moments of the conference, blessing the event with their presence and their words of encouragement for married couples.



Gérald and Denise Montpetit

Dawn and James Kautz from Blessed Margaret Parish in St. Malo, MB, celebrating 24 years of marriage this year, share about their enriching experience at the Breathe Marriage Conference:

We really felt like we were far too busy to set aside time to participate in the marriage conference “Breathe.” When it became abundantly clear that God was personally inviting us, even calling us by name, it was such a relief and overwhelming blessing to attend! We felt like a feast was set before us by our

Maker, and we didn't want to miss a moment of it! The presentations were both deep and lighthearted. The team leading the conference kept as laughing as they challenged us to more. We learned some really enlightening information about the types of communicators that we are, and how different we are from each other. As they explained how to approach difficult conversations the Montpetits pulled out an umbrella and opened it over the two of them and talked about opening those conversations "under the umbrella of mercy". That really gave us an important visual reminder of how to start those difficult talks. There was opportunity for genuine encounter with the Lord and each other as a couple throughout the conference. It was also most encouraging to be surrounded by a tribe of so many other couples - ranging from newlyweds and couples with new babies, to couples who had to jump through many hoops to find childcare, to mature couples who had been married 40 to 50 years! It was really so affirming to be in that environment and witness the love and devotion between all these couples.



A big thank you to the Montpetits and Connellys for reminding us to take time to Breathe.

