



DIOCESAN WEDDING ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

“Love never fails”

By Denise Walley

Forty couples presented themselves for a renewal of vows during a beautiful Eucharist on Sunday, November 13 in St Emile Church at the 6th Annual Diocesan Wedding Celebration. Presided by His Grace, Archbishop LeGatt, and con-celebrated by Fr Carl Tarnopolski and Fr Kevin Bettens, a large gathering witnessed a joy-filled diocesan celebration of married love for many couples from throughout the Archdiocese of Saint Boniface. Couples present were married from 5 to 55 years.

Upon arrival, each couple, many with family members, received a rose and a certificate before Mass began. The theme chosen for the homily was based on mercy, reflecting the Jubilee of Mercy. We were reminded that the most important words in marriage include “please”, “thank you” and “I am sorry”. Mercy and forgiveness, being merciful to one another as God is merciful to us, carries a marital relationship through the trials of life. Love that is faithful in the face of suffering is a way that brings forth new life and healing.

Two couples presented their testimonies. One interesting and very true quote was. “It is easy to get married. It is sometimes more difficult to stay married without lots of forgiveness”. Another quote states, “We are imperfect, therefore God must be part of the relationship.”

The Renewal of Wedding Vows is an important element of this celebration. This is a good reminder to every married couple of the nuptial covenant that is sacred in the plan of God, permanent, faithful and fruitful and is a living symbol of God’s love for his people.

The celebration ended with a time of refreshment and fellowship.

Many thanks to the Office of Marriage, Family and Life for the opportunity to celebrate marital love! This celebration highlights the relevance of married love as God intended it to be in a world so desperate for LOVE.