## A CELEBRATION OF CONVALIDATION

SEEKING HOLY MATRIMONY IN THE CATHOLIC CHURCH

Couples married outside the Church seeking to convalidate their marriage in the Catholic tradition are invited to this celebration.

WHEN: World Marriage Sunday, Feb. 11, 2024, at 3:00 PM

WHERE: Cathedral of Holy Cross, 1400 Washington St., Boston, MA

HOSTED BY: Family Life of the Secretariat for Evangelization and Discipleship

**PRINCIPAL CELEBRANT:** Bishop Mark O'Connell. Additional priests will be on hand for couples whose first language is not English

**NEXT STEPS:** After <u>registering online</u>, contact the parish where you attend Mass. If you do not have a parish where you regularly worship, you can go to the nearest Catholic church. Contact us if you have any difficulty connecting with a parish

**FOR THE PRIEST OR HIS DELEGATE:** Please prepare the couple for a convalidation. Return all the relevant paperwork with the official parish seal and the appropriate signature, a marriage envelope, and any certificates of Baptism and/or Confirmation **by January 15** to:

Attn: Family Life/Convalidation Ceremony Pastoral Center 66 Brooks Drive Braintree, MA 02184

NOTE: Please do not send marriage paperwork directly to the Cathedral of the Holy Cross

While preparing the couples, use your discretion whether it would best for the couple to participate in a marriage preparation course (recommended for couples married fewer than two years) or a marriage enrichment program. We suggest the following:

- Visit <u>evangelizeboston.com</u> for the *Transformed in Love* marriage preparation schedule of workshops. On demand options are available if dates listed do not work for the couple. Preparation in Spanish is also available.
- Marriage enrichment opportunities for those married two or more years:
  - Catholic Couple Check Up Inventory
  - <u>REFOCCUS Inventory</u> for married couples
  - o <u>Marriage Encounter</u> for virtual and in person retreats

Please contact Family Life Consultant, Emily Elliott with any questions at (617) 746-5756 or <u>Emily Elliott@rcab.org</u>.

