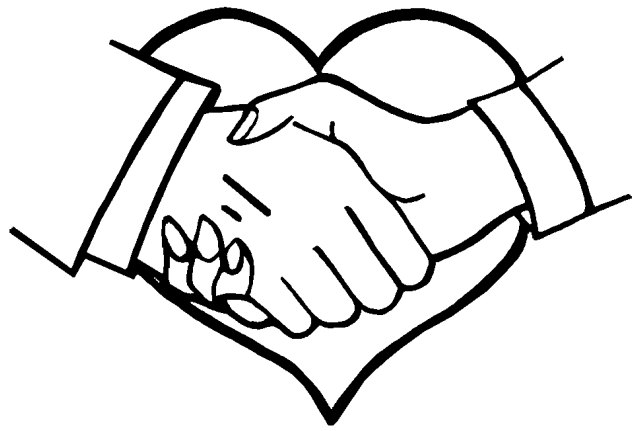


## QUALITIES FOR MARRIED COUPLES IN "LIKE-TO-LIKE" MARRIAGE PREPARATION MINISTRY



An ATTITUDE OF OPENNESS that intends to "identify with the engaged couple; to grasp what are [their] joys, hopes, anxieties, and/or fears; and to echo them in their own hearts."

A WARM AND CARING ATTITUDE OF HOSPITALITY, which is positive and joyful and foreshadows a sense of Christian community.

MUTUAL KINDNESS AND RESPECT in their behavior to one another.

CONTINUED GROWTH IN THE MARRIED COUPLES' FAITH LIFE that seeks to help engaged couples identify and deepen their own faith.

LIVING A SACRAMENTAL MARRIAGE, meaning that their marriage is recognized by the Church and they practice their Christian faith, including mixed-church couples and couples in second unions.

ABILITY TO ASSIST the engaged couple "in practical ways and also serve as inspirational models by their faith, example, good qualities, and friendship."

COMMITMENT TO CLEARLY SHARING CATHOLIC TEACHING about marriage, family and children and to cooperating with clergy in the instruction of couples in married life.

WILLINGNESS TO DEVELOP & LEARN about the key topic areas that enable engaged couples to assess their own relationship and hopes for the future by offering ways for the engaged couple "to facilitate their communication, enhance their understanding, deepen their love, reflect on the sacrament, nurture their faith, strengthen their commitment, and consider their marriage as a real apostolate within and for the Church." (USCCB, *Faithful to Each Other Forever*, 58-62.)