



El Taller del Orfebre  
The Jeweler's Shop

*Certain of the beauty of the marital vocation and aware of the difficulty we have in actually living it, we propose a journey for helping couples to embrace their vocation more fully.*

#### FORMAT

- Workshops will be held via Zoom one Saturday morning per month beginning in January and ending in October 2023.
- Both husband and wife must participate in the workshops and make every effort to attend all sessions.
- Couples are strongly encouraged to join with one or two other couples and regularly “attend” the workshops together.
- Following each Saturday session, couples will be given homework relevant to the talks in order to deepen their work.

#### PROPOSED SCHEDULE (EST)

10:00 – 11:00 Assembly

Short break

11:15 – 12:15 Lesson part I

Lunch Break

12:45 – 13:45 Lesson part II

Short Break

13:55 – 14:30 Witness

# THE JEWELER'S SHOP

*A journey for discovering  
all the beauty of marriage*

#### JANUARY 28

The Foundation: A Starting Point

#### FEBRUARY 25

Dual Identities: Difference as a Resource and Richness

#### MARCH 18

The Vocation to Love: Made to Love and Be Loved  
Unity of the Person: The Embodied Person, the Personal Body

#### APRIL 29

Emotions and Feelings: Knowing Myself and the Other

#### MAY 20

The Route to True Intimacy

#### JUNE 17

The Human Experience of Love: Attraction, Affection,  
and the Decision to Love

#### SEPTEMBER 16TH & 17TH (BOTH SAT. & SUN. MORNINGS)

The Beauty of an Integrated Human Sexuality  
Loving with One's Whole Body

#### SEPTEMBER 30 (OPTIONAL 2HR EXTRA SESSION)

Assembly on an Integrated Sexuality

#### OCTOBER 28

It's Possible to Live this Way: Reflecting on the Journey

*We invite you to look at this opportunity as a gift that spouses give to one another; a way of prioritizing their relationship in the midst of life's daily demands.*

#### COST & REGISTRATION

- Participation cost is **475 CAD** per couple
- Register by emailing [thejewelersshop2023@gmail.com](mailto:thejewelersshop2023@gmail.com)
- Payment in installments is possible, inquire via email to [thejewelersshop2023@gmail.com](mailto:thejewelersshop2023@gmail.com)
- **RSVP by Friday, December 16, 2023**
- **Deadline to register is Monday, January 23, 2023**

*“That path on which the heavens set us is worth treading in its entirety, whatever it may be, until the end.”*

*– Alessandro Manzoni, Adelchi*

## **WHAT IS THE SPECIFIC DESIRED OUTCOME OF THESE WORKSHOPS?**

From one of the founders and facilitators, Cristina: “There is one outcome ... our one desire was to open desire in marriage. In marriage, after some years, you feel like you’ve reached the end ... the end of “doing fine.” But the horizon is much greater, much bigger. What does it mean that there be a lived communion between spouses? It’s more than the world tells us, more than just having a “good relationship.” We want to help equip people for a life’s work, to give the tools for it. We desire communion with our spouse. If you desire it, it is because there is a path for it. Our goal with this work is to open horizons, open desires, give tools for a path. Like School of Community, this is a life’s work.”

## **WHAT HAS BEEN THE EXPERIENCE OF OTHERS WHO HAVE PARTICIPATED IN THIS WORK?**

Over 200 couples in Spain have participated in the workshops. This year there are thirty more participating remotely (following the format we propose). The work is going on its 8th consecutive year in existence.

A witness from a past participant, Tomeu: “There was significant work and sacrifice involved in waking up at 4:30 a.m. in order to catch a flight to Madrid, making arrangements to leave our four children one Saturday of each month, planning to make the return trip the same day. But it was precisely having to make such a great effort that pushed us to dedicate the time and attention to this work that was its due.

My wife and I took very seriously our “homework” following each session and took careful notes during each talk. I remember I used to get frustrated trying to catch all of the interesting things that were being said ...

Returning home was a gift, we were full of the things we had heard which were a real help for our marriage. We’d pick up our kids with a renewed gaze. They would notice this, especially our eldest, who did his part each time so that we could dedicate ourselves to this work. Truly, it has not been time wasted.

Meeting you all [the facilitators] and the other participants has given us an opportunity to generate a new group of friends, each with his own life and history, but each with that great desire that his marriage be a place of growth, certainty, and the happiness that we all long for.

This work is more than a class or a course, it’s a workshop, where one builds, repairs, designs, and where one has the specific tools for doing so, tools that one doesn’t just have at home.

Finally, let me replace the word I used earlier, “sacrifice,” for the word “pleasure” because, as we’ve learned, giving yourself to a work like this, a person grows and gains certainty of the path he walks. I’m infinitely grateful for that initial intuition I had to follow what seemed like a crazy plan.”