



# WHAT IS A HOST COUPLE?

*“Become apostles to other married couples”*

- Pope Paul VI

The *TH* Formation series features spouses who gather together seven times throughout the year with the goal of strengthening their marriages and embracing God's plan for their families. Gatherings are led by Host Couples who are formed and supported by the St. John Paul II Foundation.

A Host Couple is a man and woman, united in marriage, who receive formation and support from the St. John Paul II Foundation to facilitate gatherings of peers to explore God's plan for marriage. The role of the Host Couple is to model and cultivate friendship within an atmosphere of hospitality and encouragement.

## WHAT DOES A HOST COUPLE DO?

Host Couples foster a community of discipleship and holiness by personally investing in couples through formation, friendship, and hospitality, centered on Christ.

## WHY SERVE AS A HOST COUPLE?

In addition to helping others to strengthen their marriage and family, Host Couples will also be strengthened in and through their mutual accompaniment with other couples.

## WHAT IS THE TOGETHER IN HOLINESS FORMATION SERIES?

Year-round marriage enrichment for small communities of spouses that equips them with the formation, encouragement, support, and practical tools to grow together in holiness and to form their children in the Catholic faith.

WHERE SPOUSES DISCOVER GOD'S PLAN FOR THEIR FAMILY

*Together in Holiness™* is an initiative of the St. John Paul II Foundation

## A HOST COUPLE IS . . .

- **FAITHFUL:** They are faithful to the Lord and to his Church and seek to grow in intimacy with God the Blessed Trinity through frequent celebration of the sacraments, a regular habit of personal prayer, and frequent reading of Sacred Scripture. They are committed to their local parish and attend Mass each Sunday and Holy Day. They actively support the Church's evangelizing mission. They joyfully embrace the Catholic Church's moral teachings, especially those relating to marriage and family life.
- **AVAILABLE:** They are able and willing to commit their time and energy to invest in meaningful relationships with others. They have discerned that building up strong friendships with other couples is a priority for them.
- **CONTAGIOUS:** They are personable and approachable. They seek out ways to welcome and affirm others through authentic friendships. Most importantly, they strive to be joyful witnesses of God's beautiful plan for marriage and family.
- **TEACHABLE:** They are open to learning and growing in their own journey of faith through a process of formation, mutual accompaniment, and receiving constructive feedback.

## HOST COUPLE RESPONSIBILITIES

- Complete an application and discernment process
- Receive formation and training
- Plan, prepare for, and facilitate seven *Together in Holiness* Circle gatherings each year
- Foster a community of authentic friendship among the couples in your Circle
- Pray regularly for the couples in your Circle



**“LIKE MINISTERING TO LIKE, MARRIED COUPLES THEMSELVES BY THE LEADERSHIP THEY OFFER WILL BECOME APOSTLES TO THE OTHER MARRIED COUPLES.”**

— Pope Paul VI, *Humanae vitae*, 26



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