



# Memo

**Date:** August 30, 2021  
**To:** Pastors, priests, deacons and parish staff  
**From:** The Most Reverend Gregory J. Hartmayer, OFM Conv.  
**Re:** Recipients awarded for Marriage-Building Parish Grant

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Per my memorandum of June 21, I am pleased to announce the recipients for the *Marriage-Building Parish Grant*. From the applications received, the three selected parishes for the pilot initiative are St. Catherine of Siena in Kennesaw, St. Clare of Assisi in Acworth and St. Michael the Archangel in Woodstock.

Each grant will provide organizational leadership and effective training for the next two years from the staff of Marriage Building-Construyendo Matrimonios USA (MBUSA), a non-profit ministry team with more than 40 years of experience in marriage and family ministry, in collaboration with the Archdiocese of Atlanta's offices of Formation and Discipleship and Intercultural Ministries. While the three selected parishes will receive focused attention from MBUSA, the archdiocese will benefit as a whole from broader trainings and resources made available. I am grateful to the Catholic Marriage Initiative Fund, our major funder, for making this grant opportunity possible.

We are excited for the possibilities that the Marriage-Building Parish Grant makes available to our archdiocese as a whole. This pilot program will serve as a potential model for future marriage and family-centered initiatives in parishes and will provide valuable information and best practices to those parishes wishing to duplicate its model. It will also serve as a way to implement the anticipated USCCB pastoral framework for marriage and family life ministries—fittingly being published in this anniversary year of both *Familiaris Consortio* and *Amoris Laetitia*.

Please contact Daniel West, lead for Marriage and Family Ministry, for more information on how your parish may benefit in the future from this model at [dwest@archatl.com](mailto:dwest@archatl.com) or 404-920-7643.