

# Lauri Przybysz, DMin

Catholic Family Life Minister

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[www.familyministryresources.com](http://www.familyministryresources.com)

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## Areas of Interest

Offer formation experiences, inspiration for mission, and program materials for Parish Ministers, Catechists, and Parents in the areas of Family Faith, Spirituality, Marriage Enrichment, Healthy Relationships, Domestic Violence awareness and prevention, Interfaith Families, and Missionary Discipleship across the lifespan.

## Education

- Doctor of Ministry 2012, The Catholic University of America, Washington, DC, Adult Faith Formation track: “A Marriage Enrichment Program for Parents”
- MA Theology, 2006, St. Mary’s Seminary and University Ecumenical Institute, Baltimore, Maryland
- MS Religious Education, 1996, Duquesne University, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, College of Graduate Education/CCD
- BA, with high honors, 1973, Michigan State University, East Lansing, Michigan, English education, creative writing, and journalism

## Professional Certification

- Professional Catechist, Archdiocese of Baltimore, 2000
- Pastoral Associate, Diocese of Pittsburgh, 1998
- State of Maryland Certified Teacher, English 7-12, 2000

## Ministry Experience

Christian Family Movement-USA, [www.cfm.org](http://www.cfm.org)

- Executive Director, 2015-present
- National Board of Directors, 2001-present
- President Couple, 2005-2009
- Program/Publications Committee Chair, 2008-2013.

Catholics For Family Peace, 2010-present

- Promotes awareness and education for Catholic clergy and laity about domestic violence. [www.catholicsforfamilypeace.org](http://www.catholicsforfamilypeace.org)
- Co-founder and Director of Education, Faculty Associate

- CFFP is an initiative of the Catholic University of America National Catholic School of Social Service.

National Institute for the Family, [www.familyministryresources.com/national-institute-for-the-family](http://www.familyministryresources.com/national-institute-for-the-family). A Catholic research and development organization

- Executive Team, 2017-present

National Association of Catholic Family Life Ministers, [www.nacflm.org](http://www.nacflm.org)

- President, 2017-2019
- Education and Formation Commission, Chair, 2013-2015
- *Family Perspectives Journal*, Chair, 2005-2010

International Confederation of Christian Family Movements, [www.iccfm.org](http://www.iccfm.org)

- North America Continental President Couple, 2011-2016
- Coordinate National Christian Family Movements, Spanish and English groups including 8,000+ families in the USA and Canada
- Synod on the Family Consultation of Pontifical Council for the Family with Lay Movements, Rome, January 2015
- Family Evangelization Project – Pontifical Council for the Family, “The Family as Subject of Evangelization” consultation, Rome, September 2009

Coordinator, Marriage & Family Life, Archdiocese of Baltimore, 2001-2015

- Design and administer volunteer training and programs for Marriage Preparation and Enrichment, Catechesis for Family Life and Human Sexuality, Family Pastoral Issues
- Curriculum revision committee, faith formation Grades K-8
- Hispanic Family Ministry, in collaboration with Hispanic Office
- Archdiocesan Committee on Domestic Violence Awareness, chair
- Interfaith Coalition Against Domestic Violence, steering committee
- Facilitate implementation and catechist training for human sexuality catechesis, K-8
- Liaison with ministry organizations for divorced, remarried, marriage enrichment, natural family planning, family life movements, bereavement
- Instructor for archdiocesan courses in theology and ministry formation for catechists.

Pre-Cana Ministry, Our Lady of the Fields Parish Sponsor Couple, 2004-present

Religion Teacher, Grades 6-8, 1999-2001

- St. Jane Frances de Chantal School, Pasadena, Maryland

Pastoral Associate, St. John the Baptist Parish, Diocese of Pittsburgh, 1996-1999

- Suburban parish of 2100 families. Rev. Joseph Mele, pastor and supervisor
- Design and administer Marriage Preparation and Infant Baptism programs
- Recruit and train catechists and develop program materials.
- Develop and coordinate parish small faith communities

- Coordinate parish newsletter and publicity

#### Master Catechist, Diocese of Pittsburgh, 1992-1999

- Marriage Preparation, diocesan seminars and parish weekend program
- Designed archdiocesan Pre-Cana Program, *Community of Life and Love*
- Diocesan Family Life Commission, 1995-1999

#### Retreat Speaker

- Marriage Enrichment Evenings, 2007 and 2009, Bon Secours Spirituality Center, Marriottsville, MD
- Knights of Columbus State Officers, Married Couples Retreat, 2008
- Ft. Meade Military Parish, Married Couples Retreats, 2010, 2011, 2012
- Adjunct preaching staff, St. Paul of the Cross Retreat House, Pittsburgh, 1996-1999

### **Publications**

- [\*Peace and Respect in Your Marriage: Domestic Violence Awareness Module for Marriage Preparation. Catholics For Family Peace Education and Research Initiative, July 2019.\*](#)
- [\*"Your Family, A Work in Progress."\*](#) RCL Benziger Catechetical Newsletters, February 2019.
- "How the Christian Family Movement Continues the Mission of Cardinal Joseph Cardijn through Observe, Judge, Act." [Paper](#), Cardijn Conference, Mt. St. Joseph Univ., Cincinnati, 2018.
- *Catholic and Grandparenting: 5 Challenges and 5 Opportunities*, ACTA Publications, 2017.
- *Homemade Disciples* Blog, [www.familyministryresources.com](http://www.familyministryresources.com)
- "Families Evangelizing Families, A Spirituality of Accompaniment," White Paper for the National Conference of Catechetical Leaders 2015 Conference
- *Wisdom and Grace for Marriage and Parenting* (Christian Family Movement-USA, 2013), author. Five-meetings for small groups
- "Application to Life" sections in the *Leaders' Guide* for the 2009 Pastoral Letter on Marriage, *Marriage: Life and Love in the Divine Plan*, USCCB
- *Intentional Christian Families* (Christian Family Movement-USA, 2007), editor and co-author. 10 meetings for small groups
- *Building A Better World: Catholic Social Teaching in Family Life* (Christian Family Movement-USA, 2008), editor and co-author. 10 meetings for small groups
- *Homemade Disciples*, editor and co-author (Christian Family Movement-USA, 2004), editor and co-author. 10 meetings for small groups
- "Every Marriage is a Mixed-Religion Marriage," *For Your Marriage* USCCB website
- "Changing Your Spouse – And Yourself," *For Your Marriage* USCCB website

### **Presentations and Workshops**

- "Homemade Disciples: Partnering with Parents and Grandparents to Nurture Faith in Their Young People" Identify practical ways to take a family perspective in evangelization that highlights parents', grandparents', and Christian friends' essential roles in making disciples.
- "Partnering with Parents and Grandparents to Nurture Faith in Their Young People"

- Assess how current programs, policies, and ministries are building up family life and assist families to recognize their unique call as church of the home.
- “Domestic Abuse: Promoting a Compassionate Catholic Response”
  - Recognize the signs, promote healthy interactions, respond according to authentic Catholic teaching, and refer affected persons to the help they need.
- “Building a Culture of Peace at Home”
  - Learn key strategies for promoting loving relationships and teaching effective tools for family communication and conflict resolution.
- “The Domestic Church Steps Out”
  - Help families of all ages recognize ways to express love in action at home beyond their doorsteps.
- “Reconciliation in the Home”
  - Evening of reflection for parents, focusing on appreciation and family prayer and communication.
- “Ten Spiritual Disciplines for Healthy Relationships”
  - Retreat for engaged and married couples, focusing on following Jesus to build a culture of peace and faith in the family.
- “Accompanying Families in the Joy of the Gospel” -
  - Identify practical ways to take a family perspective in faith formation that highlights parents’ essential role in making disciples.
- “The Works of Mercy: Family-Style”
  - Explore ways to inspire families to put God’s mercy into practice in the home, parish, and wider society.
- “The Mission of Love: Evangelizing Marriage”
  - Consider new directions in marriage enrichment to inspire married couples to find transforming power for nurturing in their vocation.
- “Creating the Future: Prophetic Parenting”
  - Nurture the evangelizing spirit in parents to pass on a vibrant, active faith in their children and to the larger faith community.

## Personal Data

- Parish: Our Lady of the Fields, Millersville, Maryland
- Born: Detroit, Michigan, August 23, 1951
- Baptized: St. Joseph’s Catholic Church, Detroit, Michigan, 1951
- Confirmed: Our Lady of Fatima Parish, Oak Park, Michigan, 1961
- Married: John X. Przybysz, 1973-present  
-St. Sylvester Catholic Church, Warren, Michigan
- Children: Rosemary, Beth, John, Jr., David, Anthony, Monica;
  - Grandchildren, 21
- Hobbies: Writing, gardening, travel
- Languages: English; Spanish, intermediate speaking and reading

## References

- Bishop George M. Rassas, Auxiliary Bishop, Arch. Chicago, 200 N Milwaukee Ave, Suite 200, Libertyville, IL 60048, 847.997.0654, [grassas@archchicago.org](mailto:grassas@archchicago.org)
- Bishop Adam J. Parker, Vicar General/Moderator Curia, Archdiocese of Baltimore, 320 Cathedral Street, Baltimore, MD 21201, [aparker@archbalt.org](mailto:aparker@archbalt.org), 410-547-5447
- David M. Thomas, PhD, Catholic Family Life Minister and author, Editor of RCLB *Family Life* series, 268 Mallard Loop, Whitefish, MT, 59937, [dmtii@aol.com](mailto:dmtii@aol.com), 406-862-1117
- Rev. Donald Conroy, Diocese of Greensburg, PA, Director, National Institute for the Family and Continental Chaplain, International Confederation of Christian Family Movements, [dconroy@comcast.net](mailto:dconroy@comcast.net), 202-302-1339