

Theological resource person



Stijn Van den

Bossche is married with a family of three grown-up children.

He has a doctorate in theology from the Catholic University of Leuven where he is a member of the staff as 'scientific collaborator'. He is secretary-general of the Interdiocesan Commission for Catechesis of the Dutch-speaking dioceses in the Bishops' Conference of Belgium. He is also involved in theological training of lay people for teaching and pastoral work. At the interdiocesan Seminary of Leuven he teaches the course of theology of marriage.

Stijn's area of interest is church renewal, theology of the sacraments, and faith initiation. His publications include 'On the Gift of the Sacrament of Marriage', in *Studies in Liturgy*, 89 (4), 238-259.

Stijn is also member of the staff of the Ignatian Center for Spirituality in Drongen (near Ghent). There, he collaborated last year in a new catechetical-spiritual course on marriage, consisting of ten evenings. The general theme of the course was: how does marriage teach us what being a Christian is about, how does being a Christian teach us what marriage is about.

. . . the well-being of the individual person and of human and Christian society is closely bound up with the healthy state of the community of Marriage and Family.

Vatican II, *Gaudium et Spes*, 47

Driving Directions to Glenroyal Hotel, Maynooth

Driving from Dublin/M50

- ⇒ Take the N4 motorway westbound
- ⇒ Turn off at Junction 7/Maynooth exit
- ⇒ Follow road for Maynooth for approx. 3 minutes

Glenroyal Hotel is on the right hand side, just before the town centre

Driving from the West

- ⇒ Take the N4 motorway to Dublin
- ⇒ Approximately 20km before Dublin take the Maynooth exit (Jct 7)
- ⇒ Turn left for Maynooth town

Hotel is just before the town centre, about 3 minutes drive on your right
Parking

The Glenroyal Hotel has ample free parking for all our guests

The Irish Episcopal Conference

Council for
Marriage and the Family



Marriage at the heart of the Church

Introducing the Council for Marriage and the Family and exploring together the vision of marriage and family in Catholic theology and spirituality today.



Saturday 28th September
2013
9.30 a.m. - 4.30 p.m.
Glenroyal Hotel

Booking Form

I wish to book _____ place(s) at the conference.

Organisation _____

Participant information

Name _____

Address _____

Tel: _____ Email: _____

Conference Fee: €50 per participant

I enclose registration fee(s) € _____

(Note: Fee includes a light lunch. It does not include accommodation.)

Cheques should be made payable to Hierarchy General Purposes Fund.

Please post bookings with fee(s) to Trish Conway,
Columba Centre, Maynooth, Co. Kildare
cmfconference@iecon.ie

Booking Deadline: Friday 13th September 2013

Council for Marriage and the Family Conference 2013

Saturday 28th September 2013

9.30 a.m. - 4.30 p.m.

Glenroyal Hotel, Maynooth

The aims of the conference are:

- ⇒ to introduce the Council for Marriage and Family to individuals and groups engaged in related ministries in the Church;
- ⇒ to invite this wider community of ministry into collaboration with the Council;
- ⇒ to explore together and at depth the vision of marriage and family in Catholic theology and spirituality today.

Conference Moderator

Barbara Gilroy
Council for Marriage and the Family
Dublin Diocesan Director of ACCORD,
Catholic Marriage Care Service

OUTLINE PROGRAMME

9.30 *Registration*

10.00 Welcome, Prayer and Introductions

Purpose and Process of the Conference

Introducing the Council for Marriage and the Family

10.45 *Tea/Coffee Break*

11.00 Marriage at the heart of the Church 1
Stijn Van den Bossche

Group conversations

Plenary discussion

12.30 *Lunch*

13.45 Marriage at the heart of the Church 2
Stijn Van den Bossche

Group conversations

Plenary discussion

15.10 *Stretch break*

15.30 Consultation: how the Council can support related ministries

Conference review

16.00 Launch of Prayer Book supporting Marriage and Family Life

Prayer for the journey ahead

16.30 *Close of Conference*

(Please note the talks will be filmed/recorded)