Deacon Kenneth and Rosemary Bauer
Location: Marion, IA
Parish: St. Joseph Parish (Marion)
Years Married: 33 years
Family: Four children; one grandchild
Other Pertinent Information:
- Involved with the St. Joseph Parish Marriage Enrichment Leadership Team (MELT) since 2014.
- Ken has been a member of the Knights of Columbus since 1994.
- Ken was ordained to the Permanent Diaconate for the Archdiocese of Dubuque in 2015.

Deacon Mark and Melissa Bortle
Location: Ames, IA
Parish: St. Cecilia Parish (Ames)
Years Married: 36 years
Family: Two daughters
Other Pertinent Information:
- Mark was ordained a permanent deacon for the Archdiocese of Dubuque in 2015.
- Involved in the marriage preparation program at St. Cecilia Parish for more than 10 years.

Deacon David and Sue Brinkmoeller
Location: Dubuque, IA
Parish: Holy Spirit Parish (Dubuque)
Years Married: 31 years
Family: Two sons
Other Pertinent Information:
- David chose a career in the juvenile court system 32 years ago –David has been a Deacon in the Archdiocese of Dubuque at Holy Spirit Parish since 2007.
- Sue has worked with teens in the social/human services and the education system for 18 years.
- Since 2004 they have been mentors in the Sponsor Couple Program for engaged couples.
- Motto: “Keep Christ at the center of your marriage.”
Deacon Vic and Nancy DeSloover
Location: Fredericksburg, IA
Parish: Holy Family Parish (New Hampton)
Years Married: 48 years
Family: Four children; ten grandchildren
Other Pertinent Information:
- God has always been a part of their marriage, as they dealt with issues of infertility, financial difficulties, and chronic illness. They have overcome these challenges and others with God’s help.

Jerry and Dory Dilger
Location: Marion, IA
Parish: St. Joseph Parish (Marion)
Years Married: 47 years
Family: Two children; six grandchildren
Other Pertinent Information:
- They have lived in three states during their marriage.

Kevin and Mary Ann Duggan
Location: Robins, IA
Parish: St. Matthew Parish (Cedar Rapids)
Years Married: 41 years
Family: Three children; five grandchildren
Other Pertinent Information:
- Active in their Parish and Archdiocesan community with Engaged Encounter.
- Taught Natural Family Planning.
- Involved in their parish RCIA program as mentors and instructors.

Jeff and Janet Francois
Location: Holy Cross, IA
Parish: St. Joseph Parish (Rickardsville)
Years Married: 10 years
Family: Four children
Other Pertinent Information:
- They are a blended family and much of the blending took place during their kids’ teenage years.
- They have been involved in Worldwide Marriage Encounter for 7 years.
- In their free time they enjoy camping and spending time with family and friends.
**Dan and Joan Hackbarth**
Location: Marion, IA  
Parish: St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish (Hiawatha)  
Years Married: 38 years  
Family: Four children  
Other Pertinent Information:  
- Dan’s motto that speaks of their relationship and life together: “In chemistry and in life, opposites attract.”  
- Unique Faiths: Joan grew up Jewish, while Dan grew up Catholic. Joan went through RCIA THREE times prior to her conversion to Catholicism in 1995.  
- They have experienced grief and loss through losing their daughter, Rebecca; Joan’s twin sister; Dan’s best friend and his brother; and their parents.  
- Both are committed to: faith, strong work-ethnic, integrity, and staying connected to family.

**Jim and Suzanne Heinle**
Location: Dubuque, IA  
Parish: Church of the Resurrection (Dubuque)  
Years Married: 45 years  
Family: Three children; five grandsons  
Other Pertinent Information:  
- They are retired teachers and have dealt with painful job loss during their marriage.  
- They have close relatives who have been divorced.  
- They have worked on many Marriage Encounter teams.  
- They have been active leaders in parish Marriage Enrichment activities, and are involved in monthly Marriage Enrichment support groups.

**David and Jenny Janssen**
Location: Vinton, IA  
Parish: St. Mary Parish (Vinton)  
Years Married: 37 years  
Family: Two sons  
Other Pertinent Information:  
- Both work full-time with life-long career in agriculture.  
- They have experienced career changes, a serious accident, and family illnesses.  
- They know the value of mentoring as they have been on the receiving end and know the benefits it can bring.  
- They are involved in their church music ministry, CEWs and other retreats, and they recently completed the Archdiocesan IMPACT formation program.
Kenneth and Susan Keune  
Location: Decorah, IA  
Parish: St. Benedict (Decorah)  
Years Married: 41 years  
Family: Four children, Six Grandchildren  
Other pertinent information:  
- Ken is a CPA in Decorah; Sue works as a Pastoral Associate at Notre Dame parish in Cresco  
- Sue has retired from Public Health Dental Hygiene and has knowledge of public assistance programs such as WIC, etc.  
- Ken completed RCIA before their marriage and both have completed Lay Formation. Sue received a Master’s degree in Ministry from Loras in 2011.  
- They have been active in marriage and family life ministry for almost 40 years

Glenn and Joanne Pohland  
Location: Peosta, IA  
Parish: St. Francis Xavier Parish (Dyersville)  
Years Married: 36 years  
Family: Four children; one grandson  
Other Pertinent Information:  
- Glenn has been a Professor of Instrumental Music at Loras College since 2009.  
- Joanne works as the Director of Catechetical Services for the Archdiocese of Dubuque.  
- For the first 15 years of their marriage, they were an interfaith couple, with Glenn being Lutheran.  
- They have served in Marriage Preparation ministry and Baptism Preparation.  
- Loss of family members as well as all the “moves” they have made have given them insight into living with stress and how to cope with it.

Joel and Michele Rogers  
Location: Ames, IA  
Parish: St. Cecilia Parish (Ames)  
Years Married: 28 years  
Family: Three children  
Other Pertinent Information:  
- Michele was raised as a Baptist, but entered the Catholic Church in 2012.  
- Their marriage and faith lives continue to grow through reception of the sacraments and participation in the life of the parish community.
**Greg and Denise Rubner**
Location: Arlington, IA
Parish: St. Mary Parish (Strawberry Point)
Years Married: 41 years
Family: Six children
Other Pertinent Information:
- They have been involved in CEW, and are currently the application couple for Worldwide Marriage Encounter.
- Greg works for a Co-op, and Denise is doing her dream job as a wife, mother, and grandmother.
- Greg is on the Faith Formation team at St. Mary, and Denise taught religion classes for 25 years. They are both Eucharistic Ministers at the parish.
- They have weathered the storms of a miscarriage, taking care for sick parents, and in-law problems.

**Deacon Mark and Rosann Sandersfeld**
Location: Ely, IA
Parish: St. Ludmila Parish (Cedar Rapids)
Years Married: 43 years
Family: Three daughters; nine grandchildren
Other Pertinent Information:
- Mark was Missouri Synod Lutheran before joining the Catholic Church in 1981.
- Mark and Rosann served in various roles with Worldwide Marriage Encounter for 20 years.
- In 2013, Mark was ordained as a Catholic Deacon.
- Mark and Rosann minister to the Homebound, teach Baptism classes, and continue to serve in Marriage Ministries. Mark also serves in Jail and Prison Ministry and is a Deacon on Call at Mercy Hospital.

**Deacon Michal and Holly Schemmel**
Location: Sumner, IA
Parish: Immaculate Conception Parish (Sumner)
Years Married: 32 years
Family: Three daughters; one grandson
Other Pertinent Information:
- Michal was ordained as a Permanent Deacon in 2017.
- They met in high school and dated for three years.
- After graduation, Michal enlisted in the Air Force.
- Holly is currently a Paramedic specialist at Community Memorial Hospital, Sumner, Winneshiek Medical Center, and Sumner Ambulance Service.
- Michal is employed as a staff chaplain at MercyOne.
- They have been involved in parish marriage ministry.
Norman and Brenda Schmitt  
Location: Rudd, IA  
Parish: Holy Name Parish (Rockford)  
Years Married: 39 years  
Family: Three children; six grandchildren  
Other Pertinent Information:  
- Brenda and Norman have loved and supported each other through births and deaths, prosperity and job loss.  
- They look forward to growing old together.  
- Norman farms, and Brenda is a Family Finance Specialist for Iowa State University Extension.  
- They serve in the Archdiocese Engaged Encounter marriage preparation program.

John and Patricia Sunseri  
Location: Dubuque, IA  
Parish: Church of the Resurrection (Dubuque)  
Years Married: 54 years  
Family: Two children; two grandchildren  
Other Pertinent Information:  
- John and Pat are now retired.  
- They served in Sponsor Couple ministry for 39 years.  
- John has been a member of the Knights of Columbus for over 50 years.

Deacon Stan and Charlotte Upah  
Location: Toledo, IA  
Parish: St. Patrick Parish (Tama)  
Years Married: 38 years  
Family: Three children; seven grandchildren (Fr. Andy Upah is their son)  
Other Pertinent Information:  
- They are passionate about supporting marriages. They have been marriage mentors with the Alexander House since 2007 and have coordinated monthly parish date nights since 2010. They are involved in Archdiocesan Marriage and Family Life leadership groups and speak at marriage programs throughout the Archdiocese.  
- Ordained as a permanent deacon in 2017, Stan teaches high school faith formation, does youth ministry, supports men’s groups, and is active with CEW teams. By profession, he is a mechanic and farmer. He owns a powersports business and coaches girls HS volleyball.  
- Charlotte serves on the cluster and parish finance councils and supports family life ministry within the parish. By profession, she is a CPA and owns her own tax and bookkeeping service.
José (Pepe) and Zoraida Vega  
Location: Cedar Rapids, IA  
Parish: Immaculate Conception Parish (Cedar Rapids)  
Years Married: 23 years  
Family: Three children (22, 18, and 15)  
Other Pertinent Information:  
• They are originally from Durango and Michoacan, Mexico  
• They are both fluent in Spanish.  
• They have experienced difficult storms in life and in their marriage. They drifted apart from each other for a while, but thankfully chose to seek God for help to find their way back to each other. They have learned the importance of hard work and prayer in marriage, and they desire to share what they learned from their difficult times with other married couples.

Jarrett and Luisa Wendt  
Location: Ames, IA  
Parish: St. Cecilia Parish (Ames)  
Years Married: 5 years  
Family: Five children (three in heaven; two adopted)  
Other Pertinent Information:  
• Luisa is an elementary school music teacher  
• Jarrett works as a Pastoral Associate at St. Cecilia  
• Luisa is from Colombia; Jarrett is from Iowa  
• Both are fluent in Spanish and they have experienced the joys and challenges of a multi-cultural marriage.  
• They have experienced the loss of their twin boys, Joseph and Matthew, to neonatal death, and their daughter, Chiara, to miscarriage.  
• They have adopted twin babies, Peter and Elizabeth, from Colombia.