

Join us for an intimate weekend retreat in the charming harbor town of South Haven, MI on the lower shores of Lake Michigan. Take a step out of your day to day schedules to recall and reflect on one of the most memorable times in your life as one in Christ. Your retreat director, Fr. Thomas J Loya along with Tabor Life Team members Andrea & Simon will blend Theology of the Body with several principles taken from Gregory Popcak's book *For Better... FOREVER!* to help you see that Married Life *can be* all you dreamed it would be. This retreat is sure to be a spiritually relaxing get away where you can focus on what John Paul the Great called the "fundamental element of existence" – Marriage. This retreat is limited to nine married couples so surprise your spouse and register today.

## Retreat Directors

**Fr. Thomas J. Loya** is currently the pastor of Annunciation of the Mother of God Byzantine Catholic Church in Homer Glen, IL. He is the host of two radio programs, "Light of the East" which can be heard in more than 60 cities across the United States on several Catholic radio networks including EWTN Radio as well as "A Body of Truth" which is broadcast on an Internet Radio Site – catholicradiointernational.com. Before entering the seminary he earned a degree and pursued a career in commercial art and design, after which he worked for a church design firm. He completed his studies for the priesthood in Pennsylvania and Rome and was ordained in 1982. In 1993, he added to his Bachelor of Fine Arts by earning a Masters in Counseling and Human Services. He has worked on the iconography both at his present parish and of St. John's parish in Solon, Ohio. In addition to his duties as a pastor and iconographer, Fr. Loya has served the Church in youth and young adult ministry and as an artist and design consultant and is currently the Eastern Catholic spiritual advisor for TOBIA. He has directed many retreats and has been a guest speaker at conventions around the world including World Youth Day 2002.

**Andrea & Simon Jordan** are the married members of the Tabor Life Institute. They have spent the past several years sharing and developing the spirituality of married life. With an intense love and foundation in John Paul II's theology of the body, they bring a particularly exciting vision of marital union as seen through the lens of Christ's Passion. Combining the spontaneity of personal experience with the beautiful structure of theology, they can help any couple find more meaning, enrichment and excitement in their marriage. Andrea and Simon have completed course work through the Theology of the Body Institute with Christopher West. They have run workshops, study groups, and have been featured guests on the Drew Mariani Show. Andrea has a Bachelor's degree in Theology from Franciscan University of Steubenville. Simon has his Bachelor's degree from Indiana University studying Business and Psychology.

## About the book

### **For Better...FOREVER! – A Catholic Guide to Lifelong Marriage**

Author: Gregory K. Popcak, MSW., Ph.D

Every married couple wants to live "happily ever after."

The problem is, not too many people know what it takes. This book will show you. *For Better... Forever!* integrates cutting-edge psychology with orthodox Christianity in a way that I believe will surprise you, challenge you, and revitalize your marriage.

"Are happily-ever-after marriages even possible?" Much to everyone's surprise, they are, even in the Digital Age. Recent psychological research has identified a group of married couples I call the Exceptional Seven Percent. These are couples in first-and-forever marriages (or Exceptional Marriages) who report significantly greater-than-average happiness, fulfillment, and longevity. These couples have very different ideas from their less satisfied counterparts toward everything from what they build their marriages around to how they handle conflict, from how they keep love alive to how they maintain the vitality of their marriage through the years. "Well," you're thinking, "bully for them. They were probably born that way."

Survey said (insert obnoxious buzzer noise here): "Wrong!" Studies suggest that only two factors set these remarkable couples apart: relationship skills and life experience. This finding is supported by the fact that another seven to eight percent of second marriages fall into the Exceptional category, bringing the Exceptional couples' tally to approximately fifteen percent of all marriages. If these Exceptional couples were born to have uncommonly rewarding marriages, then half of them wouldn't have had to get divorced to learn how to do it! The good news is, even if you were not born a "collaborative genius," as Drs. William J. Ledever and Don D. Jackson of the Palo Alto Mental Research Institute called such a person, you can learn how to become one. And, thanks to this book, you won't have to get divorced to do it. Better still, all of the attitudes and habits practiced by these couples are completely consistent with solid Christian teaching.

Link (<http://www.exceptionalmarriages.com/book1.htm>)

# Tabor Life presents...

## Married Life

The way you always dreamed it could be!

### Retreat Schedule

#### Friday

- 5PM – 7PM Check in & Social
- 7:30PM Introduction (Fr Loya)
- 9:00PM Talk 1 (Andrea & Simon)
- 10PM Compline Prayer (*Evening Prayer of the Eastern Church*)

#### Saturday

- 8:00AM Breakfast
- 9:00AM Morning Prayer
- 9:30AM Talk 2 (Andrea & Simon)
- 10:15AM Break/Discussion
- 11:00AM Talk 3 (Fr Loya)
- 12:00PM Lunch
- 2:00PM Talk 4 (Andrea & Simon)
- 2:45PM Break
- 3:00PM Talk 5 (Fr Loya)
- 5:00PM Hors d'oeuvre Reception
- 5PM – 8PM Dinner
- 8:30PM Prayer
- 9:00PM Open Discussion

#### Sunday

- 8AM Breakfast
- 11AM Mass – St Basil's Catholic Church

#### Confession Times w/ Fr Loya

Saturday 12:30PM – 2PM & 8:30 – 10PM