



HELPING FAMILIES TO OVERCOME TECHNOLOGY CHALLENGES

Version 1

AGAPÉ CATHOLIC MINISTRIES

For the Technology Challenged

Find a "Helper" among their family/friends/parish community: Use the printable version of our worksheets and ask the couple to work on paper and pencil. Then, the Helper, someone in their family, a close friend, or even a Parish volunteer who is technology proficient could enter the couple's answers into our system.

If the Helper is a parish volunteer, it is important that the person is someone with whom the couple feels comfortable. There are some rather sensitive topics covered in our curriculum that will include very personal answers and we want the couple to feel very comfortable with the person helping them.

Parish secretaries are also great helpers! They could provide the printed version of our worksheets and then enter the couple's answers into our system. If the couple has a child, teenager or adult, he/she might also be enlisted to help their parents.

No Computer at Home?

- Suggest the couple go to the nearest local library and work from there.
- Suggest the couple borrow a computer from a relative or close friend.
- Check thrift stores for used computers
- Couple could ask their Parish if they have a laptop they could borrow.
- The Parish/Dioceses might consider starting a "Computer Bank" much like the "book bank" schools have
 - Advertise in weekly bulletins asking for donations of laptops families are not using
 - Explain how these computers will help couples who do not have one with completing their Pre Cana courses and prepare for marriage
 - Allow couples to check in and out those computers.



***Building Christ-Centered Families,
One Family at a Time...***



Additional Resources

The following websites may also provide additional guidance for you as you assist couples with overcoming challenges associated with the use of technology, whether from “technophobia” or lack of equipment. Note that the links below are provided for reference only and are not meant as endorsements of the companies or organizations they represent.

OVERCOMING TECHNOLOGY FEARS

8 Tips to Overcome Your Technology Fears

<https://www.virtualvocations.com/blog/telecommuting-survival/8-tips-overcome-technology-fears/>

10 Ways to Overcome Your Fear of Technology

<https://blog.envisionsolutions.com/10-ways-to-overcome-your-fear-of-technology>

How to Overcome Your Fear of New Technologies

<https://seniorplanet.org/how-to-overcome-your-fear-of-new-technologies/>

PURCHASING USED LAPTOPS

5 tips to follow when buying a used laptop

<https://www.windowcentral.com/tips-buying-used-laptop>

Buying a Used Computer: 7 Important Things to Consider Before You Buy

<https://www.crtucson.com/buying-a-used-computer-7-important-things-to-consider-before-you-buy/>

8 Legit Ways to Get Free Laptops

<https://wellkeptwallet.com/get-free-laptops/>

How to set up a second-hand laptop

<https://home.bt.com/tech-gadgets/computing/laptops/set-up-second-hand-laptop-11363937195187>

SOURCES FOR FREE/LOW-COST LAPTOPS FOR LOW-INCOME HOUSEHOLDS

<https://www.freecycle.org/>

<https://www.withcauses.org/askforhelp.htm>

<https://worldcomputerexchange.org/>

<https://www.computerswithcauses.org/application.htm>

<https://www.everyoneon.org/>

<http://ctac-nh.zohosites.com/apply-individual.html>

SOURCES FOR FREE/LOW-COST OFFICE SUITE SOFTWARE

<https://www.libreoffice.org/>

<https://docs.google.com>

<https://www.wps.com/>

<https://www.freeoffice.com/en/>

<https://www.polarisoffice.com/en/office>

<https://www.openoffice.org/>

<https://www.zoho.com/workplace/>

“Let us boldly become citizens of the digital world. The Church needs to be concerned for, and present in, the world of communication, in order to dialogue with people today and to help them encounter Christ. She needs to be a Church at the side of others, capable of accompanying everyone along the way. The revolution taking place in communications media and in information technologies represents a great and thrilling challenge.”

-- Pope Francis, 48th World Communications Day



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