

A Celebration of Marriage & Families

Council of Catholic Women play major role in celebration plan-

With the intent of highlighting the importance of the Sacrament of Marriage, Bishop John C. Nienstedt gathered with the faithful of the diocese for a Celebration of Marriage and Families. The event was held Sunday, October 1, 2006, at the Church of St. Mary in Bird Island, MN. Age appropriate sessions on the topic of marriage and family were conducted and Bishop Nienstedt offered a special blessing to all those in attendance. A light catered supper was provided. Preparations for the day were coordinated by a joint committee of the Diocesan Council of Catholic Women and the Diocesan Pastoral Council.

Pictured are some of the highlights of the day.



(Left) Families from throughout the diocese gathered for a day of prayer, discussion, and socializing. A book of family prayers was given to those in attendance.



(Above) Singer-songwriter from Louisiana, Kara Klein, shared her music and testimony during the junior high session.



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(Above-right) A panel of three Hispanic couples shared in the Spanish-speaking session.



(Above) Bishop John C. Nienstedt led the discussion speaking on *Theology of the Body* during the high school session.



National Evangelization Team members (NET) played an important role during the celebration, being available to assist with set-up and clean up as well as giving direction or answering questions attendees had.



(Above) Director of Religious Education Mary Braun of Olivia instructs students taking part in the elementary session.

(Right) Deacon Mark Kober of Sleepy Eye leads the procession during the prayer service. Bishop Nienstedt offered a special blessing to all in attendance.

