
To : Second Generation and Jacobs Children who received Blessing

From : ESGD staff

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Date : 2 March 2015

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Blessed Couples Retreat

Dear Blessed couples,

We would like to invite you to our Blessed Couples Retreat over the Easter Holidays: Friday 3rd – Monday 6th April 2015. It is open to all 2nd Generation & Jacobs Children Blessed Couples, but we would like to target those who were blessed in the last 3 blessings – 2015, 2014, 2013 – in their first years of Blessed life.

We want to offer this time as an opportunity to reflect, share together, and learn about things which can help us to better develop and experience joy in our partnership as a Blessed couple, whilst also experiencing the value of a supportive community. Creating a meaningful life, with a strong partnership and a clear lifestyle at the heart of it, takes effort and strength. We therefore believe that it is worthwhile to take time for marriage enrichment and that the investment of the long Easter weekend could be the right opportunity for you as a couple to attend. Going through similar experiences, and sharing ideals and values, gives us a good basis to support each other in the early years of this life journey.

Hosting it in the lovely coastal town of Oostduinkerke also means that we will be able to enjoy the spring weather in the West Flemish coast, across the English Channel and in short reach of France. With this location we want to offer a balanced schedule and shape it based on the dynamics of the group; spending time to take in the coastal surroundings will definitely be part of it. We are also hoping to visit another nearby location like the fairy-tale medieval town of Bruges.

The retreat will be led by a group of ESGD staff, directed by Patrick and Yebs Hanna. The programme will consist of sessions around the topic of developing our 'Blessing lifestyle'. We want to touch on relevant questions and topics and share some helpful guidance to develop our marriage partnership in a good direction. The format will therefore evolve mainly around offering some content followed by discussions and sharing, as well as enjoying some leisure time and exploring the surrounding areas.

Overview

- Invited:** Second Generation and Jacobs Children who have received the Blessing
- Content:** Developing our 'Blessing lifestyle'. Creating a loving partnership.
- Dates:** **3 April** (Friday) – **6 April 2015** (Monday), Easter season
- Arrival:** by 18:00 on 3 April to Oostduinkerke
- Departure:** after 13:00 on 6 April
- Place:** Youth hostel Oostduinkerke, Duinparklaan 41, Oostduinkerke 8670, Belgium
- Website:** <http://www.jeugdherbergen.be/en/facilities-oostduinkerke>
- Cost:** 90 EUR for each participant of the WS. This includes sponsoring.

Register by 18th March 2015 online at

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1QDfAF0sI8R-p0R-6iPNYhBFqagNb3VqQBg2Ios8cCKA/viewform>

Spaces are limited so please apply soon. The earlier the better, so that we can request more space in the youth hostel if needed.

Travel info:

The youth hostel is easily reachable by car and affordable by public transport. It is in between two train stations: Koksijde and Oostende. If travelling by plane one can arrive to Brussels International airport or Lille airport and transfer by train (train ride is around 2 hours). There are direct trains from Brussels train stations of the Airport, Midi (South) and Nord (North) so traveling via bus or international train is quite straightforward. As it is close to the Dunkirk and Calais ports, the British can easily travel by car, Eurolines bus or Idbus to Lille or Brussels and then continue by train.

Please check the travel planner website on how connect to either Koksijde or Oostende within Belgium. Local Travel Planner:

<http://www.belgianrail.be/jp/sncb-nmbs-routeplanner/query.exe/en>

Youth hostel's website for more information and for routes by car:

<http://www.jeugdherbergen.be/en/contact-oostduinkerke>

We look forward to hearing from you!



Patrick and Yebuny
European Second Generation Blessing Department