



## Initial Meeting With Your Pastor

In your meeting with your pastor, address the following ideas about Hearts Afire: Parish-based Programs from the Marian Fathers of the Immaculate Conception (HAPP®):

- The need for an increase in a desire for holiness and in participation in the Sacramental life among Catholics, both of which are encouraged in the HAPP® Program.
- The dedication of the Marian Fathers to renewing and strengthening parish life and supporting the clergy. You can find out more about the Marian Fathers — the religious Congregation of priests and brothers that developed, launched, and promotes the HAPP Program — at [Marian.org](http://Marian.org).
- The **simplicity** of the HAPP Program: one of the most popular and complete adult faith-formation program for laity that deepens parish life.
  - **Stage One: The Two Hearts:**
    - The Immaculate Heart of Mary – Marian Consecration in *33Days to Morning Glory* and its accompanying group retreat.
    - The Sacred Heart – Divine Mercy in *Consoling the Heart of Jesus* and its accompanying group retreat.
  - **Stage Two: Wisdom and Works of Mercy**
    - Participants learn about our Catholic Faith (in light of the mystery of the Most Holy Trinity and the concept of communion) — based on *The 'One Thing' Is Three* book and using its accompanying group study materials.
    - Then participants put their faith into practice as a group by performing works of mercy in their parish and community, using the book on the works of mercy, *'You Did It to Me': A Practical Guide to Mercy in Action*.
  - **Stage Three: Keeping the Hearts Afire**

Groups are invited to join the Marian Missionaries of Divine Mercy (living their consecration to Mary and Divine Mercy) and get to pick from a variety of small-group programs to keep going deeper in their faith. 33 Days to Merciful Love Group Retreat is part of Stage Three and is an additional program. (You do not have to go through the other programs before going through the 33 Days to Merciful Love Group Retreat.)
- The materials used in the HAPP Program are approved as faithful to Catholic teaching and include books and talks by Fr. Michael Gaitley, MIC.

- The HAPP Program can be run with little or no cost to the parish. It's been called one of the most popular, affordable, and complete adult faith formation programs in the U.S.
- Each stage includes:
  - Easy-to-use materials (kits for leaders and packets for participants).
  - Promotional and support materials on [AllHeartsAfire.org](http://AllHeartsAfire.org).
- Your willingness to take care of scheduling the facilities, picking dates, ordering materials, registering and contacting participants, and training small group leaders.

Covering all these details in your meeting with your pastor will show him that you are well prepared and committed to the success of the program and that you indeed want to make it a gift to the parish.