

Directions to Kirkridge

(610) 588-1793

From I-80, in Stroudsburg take PA Exit 307 to Rt. 191 South. Go 4.5 miles. From I-78, take Rt. 22 to Rt. 33 North and exit at Rt. 512 or 191. Kirkridge is 5 miles north of Bangor off 191. Nelson Lodge is located off 191.

From Baltimore/Washington/Philadelphia, take I-476 North to Rt.22 East (Exit 56) to Rt. 33 and follow directions above.

Registration Information

Cost: \$50.00 per couple - \$35.00 per single person (includes registration, honoraria, 1-night lodging and all meals.)

Limited number of participants

Only 24 can be accommodated.

Register early.

Make checks payable to:

Diocese of Bethlehem – Clergy Partner Retreat.

Return registration slip and check before May 16, 2007 and send to:

**Diocesan House
333 Wyandotte Street
Bethlehem, PA 18015
ATTN: Rosemary Kleintop**

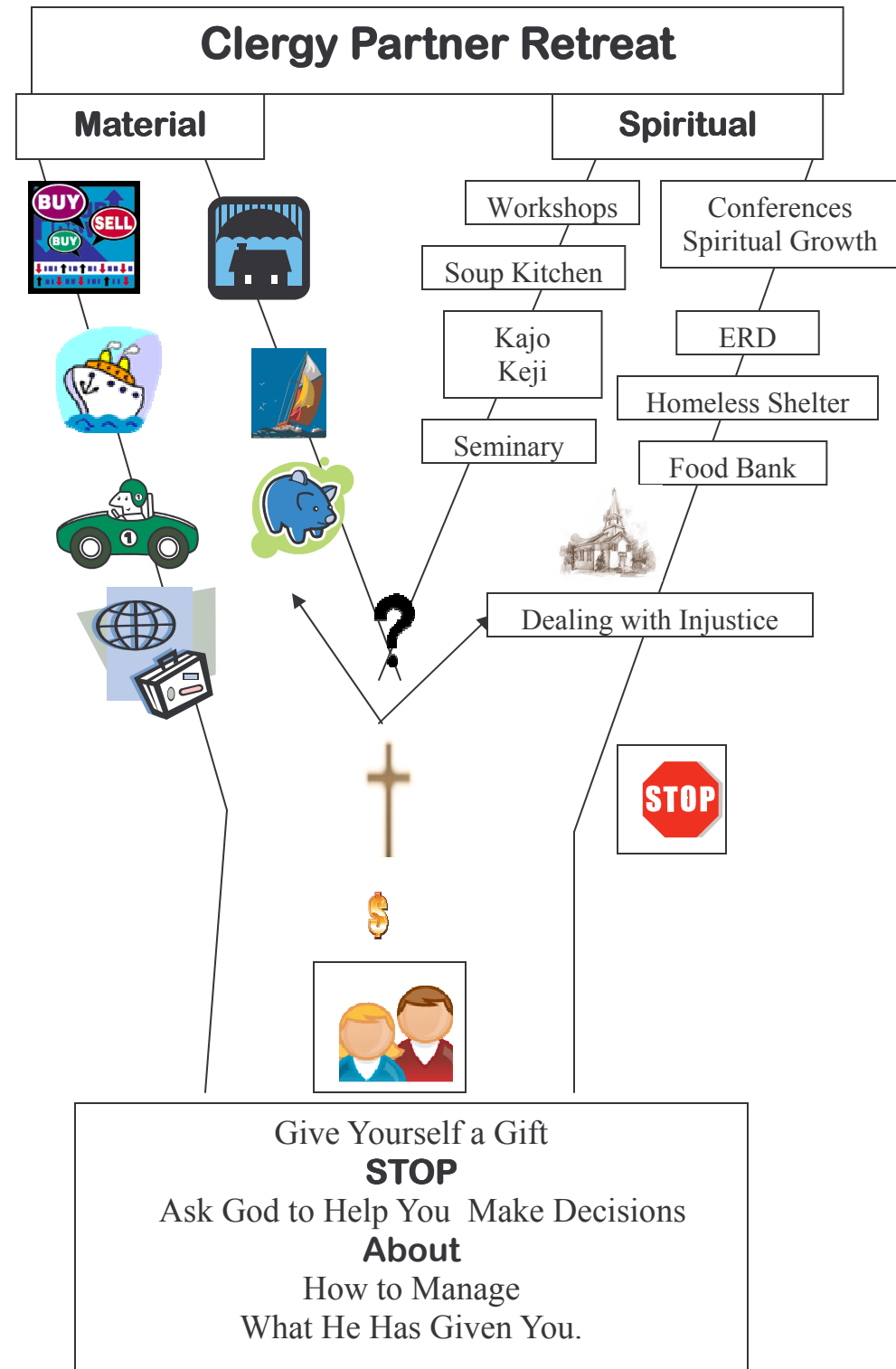
Registration

Name (s): _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Parish: _____



From a Faith Perspective

A Money and Faith Retreat for Clergy Couples
facilitated by **The Rev. Kirk Alan “Chief” Kubicek**,
Rector of Saint Peter’s, Ellicott City, Maryland

June 15 – 16, 2007

Registration begins at 5:00 PM. Dinner and 1st session - 6:30 PM.
Retreat concludes on Saturday at 4:00 PM.

Kirkridge Conference Center - Bangor, PA

The Rev. Kirk Alan Kubicek, or “Chief” as he is known, has been trained by the National Church Office of Stewardship under Bob Bonner, Ron Reed, Bill Caradine, Hugh Magers and Terry Parsons. He has worked with parishes, dioceses, clergy groups, and conferences across the country since 1987. Using story telling, music, the Book of Common Prayer, the Bible, and humor, Chief enables participants attending stewardship events to examine their own life of Stewardship in the context of being God’s Beloved.

He has also been involved with the Episcopal Network for Stewardship (the appropriately nicknamed “TENS”) since its very beginnings, and writes a regular column in the TENS newsletter titled “Clergy and Money.” His sermons can frequently be found on the Episcopal Church’s Worship-that-Works website, and most of his offerings there have stewardship themes.

You may remember that he along with Kevin Cashman, Director of Ministry of Money, led an all-day workshop for some 70 clergy of the Diocese of Bethlehem in September 2004. He has worked for many years with the Gaithersburg, MD, based *Ministry of Money* (a ministry of the Church of the Saviour, Washington, D.C.) in facilitating workshops, and now serves on their Board. He agrees with Saint Benedict in the belief that those who participate in this life with an attitude of thanksgiving will receive its full promise. “Our God is a God who loves the world and gives. Being made in God’s image, we are also to love the world and give.” Chief believes Jesus when he says, “it is our God’s deepest desire to give us the Kingdom of God. We need only open our hearts, minds and souls to let that gift come in.”

DEALING WITH FINANCIAL FORKS IN THE ROAD

Like it or not, money plays a very important part in our lives, and can make truly negative changes in our relationship with our loved ones. If one partner wants or needs to do certain things with money that the other does not see as important or necessary, painful and non-compromising situations can occur. These tensions become worse when triangulated among the couple, the home and family, and the ministry demands of parish life.

Fortunately, God blesses those who decide to make a change. How quickly does this change take place? For most of us, it is gradual. The money journey continues to move forward in small steps, and along the way we come to forks in the road. At these forks we need to stop and work together to perceive what’s actually occurring, and then make prayerful decisions about how to proceed.

All around us are messages to buy and have more for ourselves – our culture, media, and economy conspire to draw us down the slippery slope toward greed. As partners, your participation in this retreat can help you come to a new understanding about how your handling of money affects your relationship. You need to come as a couple to face the realities about how you value money, and how you can work together with God’s help to manage your financial resources in a cooperative way that will foster a healthy balance between materialism and spirituality. Giving back to God that which is God’s in gratitude for all His blessings in your life, and then asking God to help you manage the remainder can go a long way toward developing a strong, supportive relationship with your partner.

As you read this, you have come to yet another fork in the road. What will you and your partner do? You can go on as you have been, or by deciding to come to this retreat, you can focus on what you want to accomplish in the months and years ahead, and the directions in which you believe God is calling you. This is a valuable opportunity to make positive changes in the way you as partners manage what God has given you. We hope you will take advantage of this time together to discover how you – with God’s help – can make decisions about future financial forks you may encounter in your lives.