

Seeking Manuscripts for *Lives Shared*, a Bellarmine Anthology of Marriage and Commitment

In the spirit of sharing our collective wisdom and taking inspiration from Bill Schickel's recent memoir of his wife, the idea of compiling written reflections and stories from Bellarmine's long-committed couples has been suggested. ("Long-committed" being defined as having been together 15 years or longer, approximately)

What to Write About

If you were asked to tell young people what's important about marriage or how you've grown in a long-term relationship or what makes it work or why commit to someone at all, how would you respond? If it helps you get started, consider beginning your reflection as a letter to a specific person such as your son or daughter, niece or nephew. Though the overall topic is open-ended, try to be as concrete and detailed as you can. Some possible themes to choose from include:

- Shared discernment
- Struggle or loss
- Growth and change
- Milestones on the journey
- Joy and celebration
- Listening and deepening
- Parenting and the couple relationship
- Letting go

Guidelines

- Suggested maximum is 900-1,000 words (3 or so pages typed, double space).
- Preferred format is a Word file, submitted as an email attachment to Peg Conway at JACandMMC@aol.com. Please include your name and phone number in the Word file with the piece.
- Deadline for submissions is April 15, 2008.
- Anticipated publication is late May/early June.

Anthology Committee

Peg Conway is the anthology's editor, and she will be assisted by several others who also participated in the former Writing at Bellarmine group. The editors will dialogue with writers regarding editorial changes, if any. If the number of submissions exceeds publication space, selections will be made in order to achieve a balance of content and voice.

Questions

Contact Peg Conway (JACandMMC@aol.com) or Liz Keuffer in the parish office (745-3398 or Keuffer@xavier.edu).