

Faculty Profile for RMT-CEFAM

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Maria Gracia Bello-Marquez, MA

Lecturer, Family Ministries and Pastoral Counseling

Contact information

RMT-Center for Family Ministries Foundation
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Course

Family Spirituality and Sexual Ethics
Pastoral Psychology and Counseling

Areas of Interest

Family resilience (especially for youth), pre-marital and marital counseling, personal growth and well-being through self-awareness, pastoral accompaniment of families and persons in recovery from substance use (especially in a community-based recovery program setting)

Background

Maria Gracia (Grace) B. Marquez is a pastoral counselor for individuals, couples, and families at the RMT-CEFAM, the family ministry arm of the Society of Jesus. She is a member of REPRO, the Center's Resilience Program for rescued street children.

Grace graduated from CEFAM's Professional Diploma Program in Family Ministry and Counseling (2010), and its Apprenticeship Program (2011). She earned her Master of Arts degree in Pastoral Ministry: Family Ministry and Counseling from the Ateneo de Manila University/ Loyola School of Theology (2017). She was adjunct faculty at the MFI Polytechnic Institute, teaching *Work Ethics and Values Education* as part of the formal education program for adolescent students (in 2018 and 2019). She is currently enrolled in the program Doctor of Ministry: Pastoral Counseling and Spiritual Care at the Ateneo de Manila University/ Loyola School of Theology.

Grace holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Food Technology from the University of the Philippines (1982). As a food technologist, she worked in the food industry for over 15 years. She retired as manager of Research & Development for a leading food and beverage manufacturing corporation.

Grace serves in her parish in the Family and Life Ministry and in the Education Ministry. She was lector/commentator and trainer for the Liturgical Committee from 1996 to 2020. In 2017, at the height of the drug war, Grace helped develop and implement the community-based recovery program for drug users in their diocese.

Since 1995, Grace and her husband have been members of the pioneer family and life movement in the country. They were national chair-couple for the Family and Life Committee from 2014 to 2017 and the Formation Committee from 2018 to 2024.