

PREPARES couples to celebrate and live a Christian sacramental marriage



RATE THE FOLLOWING:

3 = Yes! We do that 2 = We do it, but it needs improvement 1 = No, we don't do that

PREPARING for Sacramental Marriage

- ___ 1. A pre-marital inventory is utilized by all couples preparing for sacramental marriage.
- ___ 2. A parish or diocesan preparation program is utilized for couples seeking marriage the Church.
- ___ 3. A parish or diocesan preparation program is utilized for couples when one or both have had a previous marriage(s) which addresses their special areas of concern, i.e., closure of the first marriage, blended families, etc.
- ___ 4. A parish or diocesan preparation program is utilized for couples seeking convalidation.
- ___ 5. If parish based, all Ministers to the Engaged are up to date with the current diocesan and parish policies.
- ___ 6. Ministers to the Engaged gather at least annually to enrich their ministry and to clarify questions.
- ___ 7. Newly married couples are mentored after the wedding.
- ___ 8. Church teaching and instruction in a natural family planning method is provided for all couples preparing for marriage.

CELEBRATING Sacramental Marriage

- ___ 9. Our parish assumes a posture of welcome to all couples seeking to be married in the Church.
- ___ 10. Engaged couples are brought forward for a blessing during the time of marriage preparation.
- ___ 11. Wedding planning assistance is provided for couples planning a wedding celebration in our parish.

“By the time of immediate preparation, the couple has developed a conviction that God is calling them to marriage with a particular person. Prayer, especially for the guidance of the Holy Spirit, and the help of wise mentors are crucial in this discernment process. Discernment also involves an honest assessment of qualities that are foundational for the marriage. These include an ability to make and keep a commitment, the desire for a lifelong, faithful relationship, and openness to children. The couple will also want to reflect on the values they share, their ability to communicate, and agreement on significant issues.”

From Marriage: Love and Life in the Divine Plan

Top three priorities for PREPARING for Sacramental Marriage:

Item No.	Action (Improve/Begin)
1. _____	_____
2. _____	_____
3. _____	_____

Total Score

out of possible 33