

Engagement/Marriage Preparation

www.ForYourMarriage.org

Steps for Couples Planning Marriage

Congratulations! We are delighted that you have chosen to marry in the Church. You have our care and our support now and throughout the future of your marriage. Let us be there for you and with you as you mirror Christ's love for his people in your marital relationship. That's why marriage is a sacrament—because it is a living sign of God's love. That's a rather large vision, but it is very possible if you include God in your relationship from the very beginning.

“Getting Married: From engagement to the honeymoon”—a 19 page booklet with tips for a less stressful, more meaningful Christian marriage.

- 1) **Meet with the priest or deacon** who will witness your marriage AS SOON AS YOU BECOME ENGAGED or least nine months before your proposed wedding date. You will be meeting with him several times.
- 2) **Take FOCCUS** (the priest or deacon will tell you how). FOCCUS is NOT a test. It's a discussion tool to help you communicate about the areas of your relationship that are strong and those that need some work. Your priest, deacon, or someone assigned by him will process the results with you.
- 3) **Attend marriage preparation** Choices include:

? ***Engaged Couples Weekend:*** see schedule below

Informal presentations by a team which includes married couples. Time to reflect and discuss with your partner in lovely surroundings.

? ***Sponsor Couple:*** Involves several meetings with a married couple from your parish. Arrange this through your parish, if they offer it.

? ***Remarriage Sponsor Couple:*** When one of you has been married before.

Email the Family Life Office for a registration form and further information. (Please Put Remarriage Sponsor Couple in the subject line. familylife@dioceseaj.org.)

? ***Marriage Prep Series:*** see schedule below

Engaged Couples Weekend Dates – 2008-2009

Register early; some weekends fill up quickly.

2008 Dates

October 17-18-19

November 14-15-16

2009 Dates

February 20-22

March 20-22

May 15-17

August 28-30

November 6-8

St. John the Baptist Retreat Center

101 Findley St.

New Baltimore

*(1/4 hours from Altoona, 3/4 hour from Johnstown;
near PA Turnpike between Bedford & Somerset)*



TIME:

Friday 8:00 p.m. to Sunday 3:00 p.m.; overnight accommodations provided.

COST:

\$250.00 per couple (includes meals, materials and lodging). \$100.00 deposit, refundable with 2 weeks notice of cancellation, due at time of pre-registration. . Remaining \$150 due before the weekend.

-----Engaged Couples Weekend Registration Form ----- (Mail form with your deposit)

Date of weekend:

Wedding date:

Woman's Name:

Religion:

Address:

Occupation:

Age:

Phone:

E-Mail:

Man's Name:

Religion:

Address:

Occupation:

Age:

Phone:

E-Mail:

First marriage for both of you?

Need handicap accessible room?

Cost: \$250 per couple Includes separate rooms for men and women, meals and materials.

A \$100 deposit is required to hold your reservation. Deposit is refundable with two weeks notice. Remaining \$150 due before the weekend. Make checks to: Family Life Office.

Have questions? Call 814 886-5551(M-F 8:30-4:00).

Mail to Family Life Office, 5379 Portage St., Lilly, PA 15938.

Marriage Prep Series – 2008-2009

Cost: \$45/couple, payable at the door
Pre-registration necessary, see form below.

July 8, 15, 22, 2008

Tues. 7:00-9:30 pm

St. Mary
312 Clark St.

Hollidaysburg

August 5, 12, 19, 2008

Tues. 7:00-9:30 pm

Our Mother of Sorrows
407 Tioga St.

Johnstown

September 11, 18, 25, 2008

Thurs. 7:00-9:30 pm

Family Life Office
5379 Portage St. (Rt. 53)

Lilly

October 7, 14, 21, 2008

Tues. 7:00-9:30 pm

St. John the Evangelist
134 E. Bishop St.

Bellefonte

Jan. 31, Feb. 7, 14, 2009

**Snow date: Feb. 21*

Sat. 9:30 am-12:00 pm

Cathedral Blessed Sacrament
One Cathedral Square

Altoona

Feb. 7, 21, March 7, 2009

**Snow date: March 14*

Sat. 10:00 am-12:30 pm

St. Stephen
414 4th Ave.

Johnstown

March 5, 12, 19, 2009

**Snow date: March 26*

Thurs. 7:00-9:30 pm

St. Michael
751 Locust St.

St. Michael

March 14, 21, 28, 2009

**Snow date: April 4*

Sat. 1:00-3:30 pm

St. Joseph
509 Caldwell Ave.

Portage

March 19, 26, April 2, 2009

**Snow date: April 16*

Thurs. 7:00-9:30 pm

St. Rose of Lima
5514 Roselawn Ave.

Altoona

April 23, 30, May 7, 2009

Thurs. 7:00-9:30 pm

St. Mary
1020 Caroline St.

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-----**Marriage Prep Series Registration Form**-----

Copy & paste this form into your email

We will attend: (Series dates & location)

Woman's Name:

Phone:
E-Mail:

Man's Name:
Phone:
E-Mail:

Wedding Date:
Catholic or Interfaith Marriage:

Advance reservations required via e-mail familylife@dioceseaj.org – put Marr Prep in subject line. For questions, call Family Life Office (814) 886-5551 (M-F 8:30-4) or Dolly (814) 942-6074 (evenings/weekends).

You will receive an e-mail confirmation of your reservation.