

REQUIREMENTS FOR MARRIAGE

1. Couple must meet with the priest at least 6 months prior to the wedding date to talk about the sacrament of marriage using the guidelines.
2. Couple must attend an Engaged Encounter Weekend and complete a Natural Family Planning class.
3. Couple needs to apply for a marriage license at least 1 week before the marriage.
4. Prepare the marriage packet - must contain:
 - a. Completed prenuptial questionnaire with signatures from the groom, the bride, and the priest or deacon.
 - b. Newly issued baptismal certificate for Catholic party(ies)
 - c. Proof of Baptism for the non-Catholic party: (one of the following)
 - i. Certificate, if possible
 - ii. Letter or statement from the church of baptism
 - iii. Copy of page from the church record
 - iv. Statement, signed and dated, from someone who witnessed the baptism, possibly the parents.
5. Affidavits of Free Status - needs:
 - a. 2 witnesses for the bride, and
 - b. 2 different witnesses for the groom (cannot be the same witnesses for bride and groom)
 - c. Priest needs to witness the signatures of the witnesses and then sign and date the affidavits himself
6. Dispensation, if needed:
 - a. Disparity of Cult (non-baptized)
 - b. Mixed Marriage
 - c. From Canonical Form
7. Copies of any annulments or death certificates that pertain to the marriage