

Steps in the Marriage Preparation

Archdiocesan Guidelines require that engaged couples participate in a Marriage Preparation Process best suited to their needs. The following are the stages or steps that are recommended for all engaged couples:

- 1) Initially, the engaged couple meets with the parish priest, deacon or marriage minister to:
 - a. gather general information
 - b. participate in assessment process/administer pre-marital inventory
 - c. set wedding date

- 2) The priest, deacon or marriage minister will schedule subsequent meetings to discuss the forms and results of pre-marital inventory.

- 3) At least 3 months prior to your wedding date, you should attend one of more Diocesan-sponsored or recognized marriage preparation programs. Some of the options are PreCana, Engaged Encounter, or a parish based program.

- 4) You will meet with the parish minister to review the entire preparation process and plan the wedding liturgy.

- 5) In the early years of marriage, it is recommended that you participate in some form of marriage enrichment. Your local parish and the Archdiocesan Family Life Office may assist you in this endeavor.