



We are here to encourage you!

Congratulations on your decision to marry in the Catholic Church. We welcome you, both Catholics and others, with open arms. We in the Catholic community would like to walk with you as you prepare for marriage.

We don't have all the answers. However, we are excited about sharing with you the vision of marriage which the wisdom and tradition of Catholicism has to offer, while fully respecting persons and beliefs of other religious traditions.

**Check out
ForYourMarriage.org**

Heard about this family planning method?

- husband and wife share the responsibility
- no health risks
- costs nothing
- works with your fertility, not against it
- scientifically researched
- can improve your marital communication
- 98-99% success rate

This is **Natural Family Planning** (NFP), an updated, scientific, medically safe, Church approved method. For information or instruction, contact Family Life Office 814-886-5551; familylife@dioceseaj.org. Certified instructors are available throughout the diocese. Scientific info: www.woomb.org. Highest success rates when learned through a qualified instructor.

YOUR OPTIONS

All fulfill the diocesan requirement

- ~ **Engaged Couples Weekend**
Time and space away from the hectic pace. A very popular weekend.
- ~ **Marriage Preparation Series**
Led by married couples and priest/deacon.
- ~ **Sponsor Couple**
Several sessions with a married couple from your parish. Flexible scheduling. Arranged through your parish.
- ~ **For those separated by distance**
Try Sponsor Couple, marriage prep in your fiancé's diocese or an Engaged Encounter elsewhere (www.engagedencounter.org).
- ~ **Online Marriage Preparation**
Online marriage preparation from www.CatholicMarriagePrep.com is accepted by the diocese if you are unable to attend any of the above programs.
- ~ **Remarriage Sponsor Couple**
Tailored to your unique situation when one or both persons have been married before. Contact the Family Life Office.

WHEN TO ATTEND Marriage Prep

The sooner the better but six months before your wedding is preferred! Couples who attend shortly after they become engaged have the most to gain. Because we give you time to dialogue with each other after our married team couples share some of their experiences, you will find your own relationship deepening. Plus, you will receive information on planning the wedding ceremony.

MARRIAGE PREPARATION SERIES – 2017

- **Pre-registration required.** Early registration advised—some series fill up months in advance.
- **Cancellation due to weather:** For classes in all locations, call the Family Life Office. A taped message will list cancellations. If you can't attend due to driving conditions, call the Family Life Office (814) 886-5551 during office hours (M-F 8:30-4:00) for make-up instructions.
- **COST: \$65 per couple** (includes all sessions in a series) **Register by e-mail**
Fee payable at the first session (cash or check payable to "Family Life Office")
Please come 15 minutes early to the first session for registration purposes.

Jan. 7, 14, 21

**Snow date: Jan. 28*
Sat. 9:30 am-12:00 pm
Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament Church Hall
One Cathedral Square
Altoona

Jan. 7, 14, 28

**Snow date: Feb. 4*
Sat. 10:00 am-12:30 pm
Resurrection Church Hall
324 Chestnut St.
Johnstown

March 8, 15, 22

**Snow date: March 29*
Wed. 7:00-9:30 pm
St. Rose of Lima School
5514 Roselawn Ave.
Altoona

April 18, 25, May 2

**Snow date: May 9*
Tues. 7:00-9:30 pm
St. John the Evangelist Church Hall
309 Lotz Ave., Lakemont
Altoona

May 3, 10, 17

Wed. 7:00-9:30 pm
Our Lady of the Alleghenies Church Hall
608 Main St.
Lilly

June 1, 8, 15

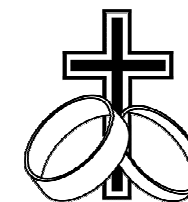
Thurs. 7:00-9:30 pm
Our Lady of Victory Activity Center
820 Westerly Pkwy.
State College

Sept. 13, 20, 27

Wed. 7:00-9:30 pm
St. Francis of Assisi Activity Center
134 Barron Ave.
Johnstown

Oct. 17, 24, 31

Tues. 7:00-9:30 pm
St. John the Evangelist School Auditorium
116 E. Bishop St.
Bellefonte



Advance reservations required by e-mail—familylife@dioceseaj.org

- **Type** "Marr Prep" in subject line.
- **Include:** Parish and town where series is held, names, phone, e-mail addresses, Catholic or interfaith marriage, and wedding date.

For questions call Family Life Office 814-886-5551 (Mon.-Fri. 8:30-4:00).
Information also online at www.dioceseaj.org. (Diocesan Offices, Family Life)

2017 Engaged Couples Marriage Preparation Weekend

- Registration must be received by MAIL
- No phone reservations accepted!
- First-come, first-serve
- \$100 deposit required

WEEKEND DATE _____

DEPOSIT ENCLOSED _____
Make check payable to "Family Life Office"

WOMAN'S NAME _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____

Email _____

Religion _____

MAN'S NAME _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____

Email _____

Religion _____

MARRIAGE DATE _____

PARISH _____

Mail to: Family Life Office, 5379 Portage St.
Lilly, PA 15938 • 814-886-5551

2017 ENGAGED COUPLES MARRIAGE PREPARATION WEEKENDS

- Informal presentations by a team which includes married couples.
- Time to plan and talk with your fiancé about your future marriage.
- Fulfills the diocesan marriage preparation requirement.
- Register early; some weekends fill up quickly! Reservations will be taken up to two weeks before a weekend unless the weekend is not filled. If a weekend is canceled due to lack of registrations, you will be notified two weeks before the scheduled weekend. At the time of cancellation, information will be given in regards to upcoming marriage preparation sessions that are available to register for in the future.

2017 DATES

NO WEEKEND DATES SCHEDULED AT THIS TIME.

Check the Family Life website for updates:

www.dioceseaj.org

Click on Diocesan Offices/Family Life.



Weekends in other dioceses are acceptable marriage preparation for our diocese. Check www.engagedencounter.org for dates and locations in District 1 (Harrisburg) and District 2 (Greensburg and Pittsburgh) Dioceses.

INFORMATION FOR WEEKENDS HELD IN ALTOONA-JOHNSTOWN DIOCESE:

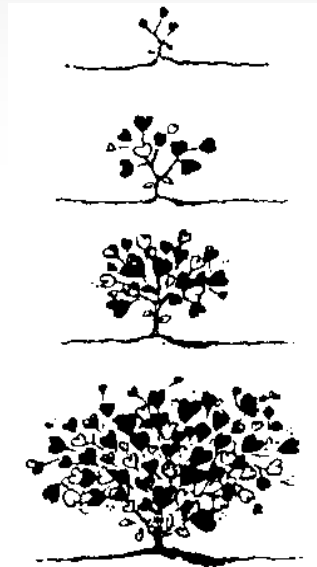
TIME: Friday 8:00 pm to Sunday 3:00 pm. Overnight accommodations and meals provided.

ALL WEEKENDS HELD AT: Sacred Heart Spirituality Center, 1872 Munster Road, Portage, PA *(Respecting the atmosphere of this retreat weekend, commuting is not an option.)*

COST: \$250 per couple (includes meals, materials and lodging) \$100 deposit, refundable with 2 weeks notice of cancellation, due at time of pre-registration; remaining \$150 due before weekend.

RESERVATIONS: Send reservation form and deposit to: Family Life Office, Altoona-Johnstown Diocese, 5379 Portage St., Lilly, PA 15938 • 814-886-5551

Marriage Preparation Schedule 2017



*Love isn't something
you fall into, it's
something you grow.*



Sponsored by:
Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown
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Lilly, PA 15938 • 814-886-5551
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