

TO DO BEFORE YOU SAY, 'I DO'

Requirements for engaged couples planning to celebrate the Sacrament of Marriage at Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Church.

♥ **CONTACT THE PASTOR** at least six months before the anticipated wedding date. If a visiting Priest or Deacon is to officiate at the wedding, please notify our Parish Office as soon as possible, (707) 422-7767.

♥ **FEES TO INCLUDE:**

- 1) Church Rental - \$1,000.00
- 2) Parish Wedding Coordinator (Pearla Cuervo, 707-429-8226) - \$125.00
- 3) Music (Mark Middleton, 707-688-4157) - \$200.00

♥ **ADDRESS SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES.** The couple discusses with the Pastor any of the following circumstances: 1) Any engaged person who is under the age of 20. 2) A pregnancy is involved. 3) The engaged couple is living together. 3) One engaged person is not Catholic. 4) Either engaged person has been married before. 5) The couple is legally married and wishes to have the marriage convalidated by the Catholic Church.

♥ **GATHER THE NECESSARY DOCUMENTS.**

Required documents: []

[] The couple's Baptismal certificates.

[] Two letters of freedom (Form B) to be filled out by two witnesses on behalf of each engaged person in the presence by either a Priest or Deacon.

[] Two pre-nuptial inquiries (Form A) to be completed by each engaged person, answering queries about their freedom to marry and their views on Christian marriage. This form to be filled out in the presence by either Priest or Deacon.

[] State of California Marriage certificate.

[] The couple's Confirmation certificates.

Provide if applicable: []

[] Permission for a mixed marriage (i.e. Catholic / non-Catholic Christian).

[] Petition for Dispensation for Disparity of Worship (i.e. Catholic / non-Catholic Christian).

♥ **ATTEND A MARRIAGE PREPARATION PROGRAM** (*certificates will be awarded upon completion*). The couple completes a Marriage Preparation program no later than two months before the wedding date. Diocesan-approved programs include: 1) **Engaged Encounter** (a weekend retreat program offered five times per year, usually held at Christ the King Passionist Retreat Center in Citrus Heights) – to register: <http://SacEE.org>. 2) **Sacramental Online Marriage Preparation** must be approved by the officiating Priest. (**Fees do apply**). To register: http://www.formstack.com/forms/catholic-marriage_prep_online

♥ **CELEBRATE THE SACRAMENTS.** In preparation for the Sacrament of Marriage, engaged couples are expected to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation regularly and attend Mass on Sundays.

♥ **PREPARE THE MARRIAGE LITURGY.** Help plan the readings (*Together For Life*) and contact Mark Middleton for the **MUSIC**.