

“Love does not consist of gazing at each other, but in looking outward together in the same direction.”

Antoine de Saint-Exupéry

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Marriage Preparation



“Living together is an art, a patient, beautiful, fascinating journey. It does not end once you have won each other’s love... Rather, it is precisely there where it begins!”

“Marriage is something so beautiful and so wonderful that we have to look after it, because it is forever.”

Pope Francis

2018-2019

Marriage Preparation...

... is a great opportunity and strong support for you to lay a firm foundation and to provide knowledge, skills and formation for your lifelong marriage.

... challenges you to focus the state of your relationship and check on important topics such as communication, conflict resolution, spirituality, finances, intimacy and commitment.

... can actively and intentionally deepen your discernment of getting married.

... leads you towards entering the Sacrament of Marriage and living the vocation of love and service as couple.

... has the potential to strengthen your bondings to your local church community and to establish faith nourishing relationships.



... with the Father Bernard Youth & Retreat Center

We offer marriage preparation within the New Catechumenal Framework for Marriage Prep of the Archdiocese of Portland.

This program is made of two building blocks: *Prepare/Enrich* and *Witness to Love*.

It can be started anytime throughout the year. It is recommended that you give yourself nine months before your planned wedding date for the course to ensure you have adequate time to complete the process.

PREPARE ENRICH*

The #1 premarital assessment in the US. With a solid research foundation and wide applicability the reliability of the assessment and the feedback guided by the Marriage Prep Coordinators will help you strengthen and enrich your relationship.



Witness to Love is a virtues-based, Catechumenate model of marriage prep that helps you facilitate an authentic dialogue about your relationship.

What makes Witness to Love unique is that you choose your own sponsor couple. This is a couple you both admire and see as a source of faith formation. This sponsor couple gives you a concrete connection and integration into the parish. Through the sharing of the sponsor couples' own marriage journey, you inherit a "lifeline" of support in your commitment to Jesus and His Church.

Cost of Course

\$ 300 per Couple

This includes assesment, material, meeting with Marriage Prep Team. Guidance through the program and support to help you have the best start to your married life.

We highly encourage you to complete your Marriage Prep Journey with:

Day Retreat

\$ 195 for Engaged Couple & Sponsor Couple

This retreat will strengthen your relationship and help you thrive in your spiritual lives. The cost includes a full day retreat for four people with lunch and coffee break. Please see our website for the next available retreat date.

Natural Family Planning Course

\$ 120 per Couple

This course will equip you with the tools and resources to practice Natural Family Planning (NFP) based on a woman's menstrual cycle without using contraception. Please see our website for the next available courses.