

Sacramental Formation for Newly -Engaged Couples

1. Couples should fill out the wedding eligibility form online at www.stmm.net. This will begin the preparation process.
2. Amy Fisher oversees the paperwork and the logistics of the ceremony. Janine McGann oversees the formation of the sacrament. You can reach Janine at mcgann@stmm.net
3. 6-7 months before the wedding date, Janine will reach out and complete an intake interview with the couple. Here at St. Mary Magdalene we use the Prepare Enrich Inventory. Prepare/Enrich covers various areas within the relationship including communication, conflict resolution, finances, intimacy, and spiritual beliefs. In addition, the assessment will explore your personality, family of origin, and relationship dynamics. Over 30 customized categories, such as military members and expecting a child, ensure your experience will feel accurate and relevant to your relationship.
4. 6 months from the wedding date engaged couples will receive an email introduction to their mentor couple. It is the responsibility of the engaged couple to reach out to the mentor couple to set up an initial meeting date/time.
5. Mentoring/accompaniment should last at least 6 months before the wedding and for 3 months after the ceremony. There are approximately 9 topic sessions to cover. Couples may or may not need all 9 sessions. Accompaniment is not about a program but nurturing a relationship with people. Our goal is to love and support couples on their journey to the altar, helping them to understand the fullness of why the church teaches what she does and facilitate engaging conversation around topics essential for a healthy and holy marriage.
6. The Diocesan weekend retreat is no longer required for couples who are doing their marriage prep through St. Mary Magdalene. If you are doing your marriage prep any other place than St. Mary Magdalene you will be required to attend the diocesan weekend retreat.
7. Couple will have a meeting with Fr. Chris to complete their prenuptial investigation (marriage paperwork). You must schedule this through Deb Prewitt at prewitt@stmm.net at least 12 weeks before your wedding date
8. One week before the wedding the couple should receive the sacrament of reconciliation.
9. After the wedding the newlyweds will meet once a month for 3 months with their mentor couple to help connect them to the parish, check in, answer any questions and to be a resource for them. These 3 meetings are meant to be touchpoints to see how the newly married couple is doing.