

2019 SCHEDULE

The two-day "Joy-Filled Marriage" workshop is being offered in 2018 throughout the Diocese of Toledo. Workshops are held on Saturday and Sunday.



DIOCESE OF TOLEDO

2019 Marriage Preparation Program Schedule

Six steps to a rewarding
marriage preparation
experience

"For this reason, a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh. This is a great mystery, and I mean in reference to Christ and the Church" (Eph 5:31-32).

FEBRUARY 2 & 3

St. Gerard, Lima

FEBRUARY 9 & 10

St. Michael, Kalida

FEBRUARY 23 & 24

St. Mary, Defiance

FEBRUARY 23 & 24

Sts. Peter & Paul,
Ottawa

MARCH 2 & 3

Divine Mercy, Paulding

MARCH 9 & 10

St. Nicholas, Miller City

MARCH 9 & 10

Resurrection Parish,
Lexington

MARCH 16 & 17

St. Charles, Lima

MARCH 23 & 24

St. Augustine,
Napoleon

MARCH 30 & 31

St. Rose, Perrysburg

APRIL 6 & 7

Rosary Cathedral,
Toledo

APRIL 13 & 14

St. John, Delphos

APRIL 27 & 28

St. John the Evangelist,
Defiance

MAY 4 & 5

St. Caspar, Wauseon

MAY 18 & 19

Holy Trinity, Bucyrus

JUNE 1 & 2

St. Thomas More,
Bowling Green

JULY 20 & 21

St. Peter, Huron

AUGUST 3 & 4

St. Rose, Perrysburg

SEPTEMBER 7 & 8

Little Flower, Toledo

SEPTEMBER 14 & 15

St. Wendelin, Fostoria

SEPTEMBER 21 & 22

St. John, Landeck

OCTOBER 5 & 6

St. Michael, Kalida

OCTOBER 19 & 20

Immaculate
Conception, Port
Clinton

NOVEMBER 2 & 3

St. John the Baptist,
Glandorf

NOVEMBER 9 & 10

Immaculate
Conception, Ottoville

*Region Rep: \$150 (not
including speaker stipends)*

*Speaker Stipend: \$20 per
talk*



Diocese
of Toledo

Office for Marriage and Family

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6 STEPS

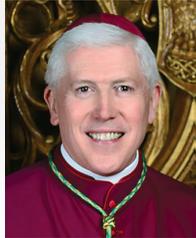
TO A REWARDING
MARRIAGE PREPARATION
EXPERIENCE

A Message from Bishop Daniel E. Thomas

Prayerful congratulations on your engagement! I am sure at this time you're in the midst of making plans for a day you've both been dreaming about all your lives. The Church shares your excitement as you prepare not only for your wedding day, but for a lifetime as husband and wife; your journey of sacramental marriage in the world. I want you to know that the Church will be by your side every step of the way to help you prepare for this life-transforming journey. The culture in which we live may neither recognize that a life-long, joy-filled marriage is possible, nor place any value on the decision to marry at all. But Christ abundantly blesses your intention and your love. His Church is here to accompany you, to offer you hope, and to affirm your commitment. Each part of the marriage preparation program we offer, outlined in this brochure, provides keen insights, tools and resources necessary to equip you for a holy marriage. I pray you will continue to turn to the Church as an ongoing source of hope for you through all your married years together, showing you that truly, "with God all things are possible." (Matthew 19:26)

Sincerely yours in Christ Jesus,

+ *Daniel E. Thomas*



STEP 1 Meet with your parish priest (or deacon)

WHEN: BEFORE SETTING A WEDDING DATE

After you become engaged, you should contact your parish as soon as possible and set up a meeting with a priest or deacon to assist you in your marriage preparation.

During this initial meeting, the priest or deacon will determine if you and your fiancé(e) are free to marry in the Church (i.e., confirm that no canonical impediments exist).

He will also provide you with the information you need to complete Steps 2-6 of the marriage preparation process. Establishing a schedule for the completion of the individual components during or shortly after this meeting is advised.

WHEN: AS SOON AS POSSIBLE AFTER MEETING WITH YOUR PRIEST OR DEACON

Shortly after meeting with your priest or deacon, most parishes will ask both of you to complete a marriage preparation "inventory," which is a series of questions designed to assess each of your habits, expectations, and values. This inventory will provide you with a personalized profile of your relationship's strengths and weaknesses.

It is an important starting point for identifying and discussing any areas that need attention.

STEP 2 Marriage Preparation "Inventory"

WHEN: IDEALLY, SIX TO TEN MONTHS BEFORE YOUR WEDDING

The Diocese of Toledo offers an excellent educational component designed to introduce you to the rich and engaging teachings of the Church on the sacrament of matrimony, including the truth and meaning of human sexuality. As part of the workshop, we also offer virtue-based instruction in communication, conflict resolution, and financial decisionmaking.

This will build on the knowledge you gained from your marriage inventory.

STEP 3 The Marriage Preparation Course

STEP 4 Natural Family Planning

WHEN: SIX TO EIGHT MONTHS BEFORE THE WED- DING

When you begin to start a family, you may have difficulties in trying to conceive. Natural Family Planning (NFP) is not only effective for postponing pregnancy organically, it is also highly effective in overcoming obstacles that compromise your ability to become parents.

More information and classes available in NFP can be found on the Marriage & Family Life Office page at the Diocese of Toledo website www.toledodiocese.org. NFP classes can also be taken online at <http://register.ccli.org/virtual>.

Visit us online at
toledomarrriageprep.org

WHEN: BEFORE THE WEDDING, AS NECESSARY

The Church invites all Catholics to prepare themselves spiritually prior to their marriage by celebrating the sacrament of reconciliation. Even if you are not of the Catholic faith, you still would benefit from spiritual direction from the priest or deacon who will be officiating at your wedding, or from another priest. The regular practice of the sacrament of reconciliation keeps marriages healthy and strong.

STEP 5 Sacrament of Reconciliation

WHEN: BEFORE THE WEDDING, AS NECESSARY

Communicate regularly with the priest or deacon who will be witnessing your wedding. Meet with him just prior to your marriage to ensure that everything is in order concerning your sacrament. Talk with your priest or deacon about getting involved in your parish community so that the Church can continue to support you throughout your married life.

STEP 6 Final Meeting with your Priest or Deacon

