

## REQUIREMENTS FOR MARRIAGE

1. Couple must meet with the priest at least 6 months prior to the wedding date to talk about the sacrament of marriage using the guidelines.
2. Couple must attend an Engaged Encounter Weekend.
3. Couple needs to apply for the marriage license at least 1 week before the marriage.
4. Prepare the marriage packet - must contain:
  - a. Completed prenuptial questionnaire with signatures from the groom, the bride, and the priest or deacon.
  - b. Newly issued baptismal certificate for Catholic party(ies)
  - c. Proof of Baptism for the non-Catholic party: (one of the following)
    - i. Certificate, if possible
    - ii. Letter or statement from the church of baptism
    - iii. Copy of page from the church record
    - iv. Statement, signed and dated, from someone who witnessed the baptism, possibly the parents.
5. Affidavits of Free Status - needs:
  - a. 2 witnesses for the bride, and
  - b. 2 different witnesses for the groom (cannot be the same witnesses for bride and groom)
  - c. Priest needs to witness the signatures of the witnesses and then sign and date the affidavits himself
6. Dispensation, if needed:
  - a. Disparity of Cult (non-baptized)
  - b. Mixed Marriage
  - c. From Canonical Form
7. Copies of any annulments or death certificates that pertain to the marriage