

**STILLWATER'S CATHOLIC MARRIAGE PREPARATION PROGRAM**  
2016-2017

Marriage is among the most serious and sacred of human commitments. In marriage, spouses are called upon to draw closer to God and to each other in a life-giving community of love. Prospective marriage partners need to be aware of what marriage requires of them. They should understand the commitment essential for a happy Christian marriage. Because the God-given right to marry must be exercised with care, the Church community (priests, deacons and laypeople) has a responsibility to assist persons entering marriage.

This information sheet explains how Stillwater's Marriage Preparation Program complies with Provincial guidelines. Marriage preparation is **NOT** focused on planning the wedding ceremony. Marriage preparation deals with the relationship between an intended husband and wife and God. The clergy and married couples involved in the Marriage Preparation Program will share in a couple's excitement concerning the wedding ceremony and they may offer ideas. However, their principal concern is with a couple's life together following the ceremony.

The first two steps in marriage preparation are up to you, the engaged couple.

1. You must contact a Priest or Deacon who will witness your marriage at least **four months** in advance of the planned wedding date.
2. You **must** register for the Marriage Preparation program using the form attached.

**Pre-Cana Seminar = two Saturday sessions totaling 12 hours.** Engaged couples must attend **both** Session I and Session II in either the fall or spring semester.

**Fall Semester at St. Francis**

Session I: October 15, 2016  
Session II: November 5, 2016

**Spring Semester at St. Francis**

Session I: March 4, 2017  
Session II: April 8, 2017

**Sessions will begin at 9:00 a.m. (coffee and donuts served at 8:45 a.m.) each Saturday and continue until about 3:00 pm. Lunch will be provided.** Seminar topics are outlined below. The topics and their specific content have been prepared with attention given to suggestions expressed by couples preparing for marriage over the past several years. Most topics are presented by married couples. Also completed is a Pre-Marital Inventory especially designed to help analyze strengths and potential areas of difficulty for couples who are to be married.

Theology of the Body	Natural Family Planning	Inter-faith Marriage
Communication	Financial Management	Language of Love
Diocesan/Legal Requirements	Marriage and Children	

If you are unable to attend the Stillwater Marriage Preparation Programs, other options are available through the Diocese of Tulsa or the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City (see contact information below). Check with the priest or deacon who will be witnessing your marriage to be certain that the program you plan to attend will fulfill all marriage preparation requirements.

**DIOCESE OF TULSA**

**Family Life Office** at (918) 307-4942; familylife.office@diocesoftulsa.org.

**OKLAHOMA CITY ARCHDIOCESE: Contact Office of Family Life** at (405) 721-8944; grigazzi@archokc.org

# Marriage Preparation Registration • Catholic Community of Stillwater

**NAMES:** (Bride) \_\_\_\_\_ (Groom) \_\_\_\_\_

**LOCAL ADDRESS** (Bride) \_\_\_\_\_ (Groom) \_\_\_\_\_

**LOCAL PHONE**(Bride) \_\_\_\_\_ (Groom) \_\_\_\_\_

**E-MAIL Address** (Bride) \_\_\_\_\_ (Groom) \_\_\_\_\_

**PERMANENT ADDRESS** (Bride) \_\_\_\_\_ (Groom) \_\_\_\_\_

**AGE** (Bride) \_\_\_\_\_ **AGE** (Groom) \_\_\_\_\_

**OCCUPATION** (Bride) \_\_\_\_\_ (Groom) \_\_\_\_\_

**RELIGIOUS PREFERENCE** (Bride) \_\_\_\_\_ (Groom) \_\_\_\_\_

**PREVIOUSLY MARRIED** (Bride) Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_ (Groom) Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

**CHILDREN?** (Bride) Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_ (Groom) Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

**PLANNED WEDDING DATE:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Dietary Restrictions?** \_\_\_\_\_

**Give the name and address of the Priest or Deacon who is to witness your marriage:**  
(This information is mandatory)

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ \$ 50.00 We would like to attend Pre-Cana: Fall Session \_\_\_\_\_ Spring Session \_\_\_\_\_

**Make checks payable to Saint Francis Xavier Catholic Church. Mail (or deliver) payment with completed registration form to St. Francis Xavier Catholic Church, P.O. Box 909, Stillwater, OK 74076 or to Saint John University Parish, 201 N. Knoblock, Stillwater, OK 74075.**

## Office Use Only – Please Do Not Complete

Date Registration Received \_\_\_\_\_ Amount Paid \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Ck. # \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Attended \_\_\_\_\_ Pre-Cana Seminar Dates Attended: Session I Session II  
Bride \_\_\_\_\_  
Groom \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Evenings Dates Completed: \_\_\_\_\_

Comments: