

STILLWATER'S CATHOLIC MARRIAGE PREPARATION PROGRAM

2017-2018

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: September 9, 2017

Session II: October 7, 2017

Spring Semester at St. Francis

Session I: TBD

Session II: TBD

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

Communication

Financial Management

Diocesan/Legal Requirements

Marriage and Children

Language of Love

Inter-faith Marriage

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@dicoeseoftulsa.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) _____ (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,

Office Use Only – Please Do Not Complete

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

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

_____ Evenings Dates Completed: _____

Comments: