

Marriage Preparation



FOCCUS INVENTORY

FOCCUS is a tool designed to help couples deepen their discussions and build unity - it's not a compatibility test! 2-5 months before the wedding, your priest (or another facilitator) will give you directions to access the FOCCUS inventory and schedule a follow up meeting.

1

MEET WITH YOUR PRIEST

Call the parish at least 6 months before your wedding to select the date for your wedding and arrange the remaining meetings with your priest or deacon.



2

DEEPEN YOUR RELATIONSHIP

Select and attend a marriage preparation opportunity 4-6 months before your wedding (or earlier, if you prefer)! See reverse for options.

3



LEARN NFP

Natural Family Planning (NFP) is a scientifically supported, Church-approved method of learning about your shared fertility and planning your family. Learn more at www.eriercd.org/chastity/

4



PLAN THE CEREMONY

Meet with your priest to plan your wedding ceremony 2-4 months before your wedding, you will choose readings, confirm music and decoration plans, and clarify expectations about the ceremony.

5



learn more

Deciding on a Preparation Experience

Are you preparing for a second marriage or bringing children into the marriage?

yes →

NOVA

The NOVA mentorship program covers the basics for a happy, holy marriage AND offers specific sessions tailored for those with children or entering a second marriage, such as blending families and integrating past experiences. To book your NOVA mentorship, please call 814-824-1261.

↓
no

Which of the following most closely matches what you are looking for in a preparation experience?

ENGAGEMENT ENCOUNTER

A retreat.
We want time to focus on our relationship, away from the demands of everyday life. Bonus points for a date-like feel and the opportunity to get to know others at a similar point in life.

PRE-CANA

Information.
Please give us the information and we'll figure out how to apply it on our own time!

MENTOR COHORT

Long term growth.
Give us a chance to bring our authentic selves into a community of experienced (mentor) and new (other engaged) couples that cares about us and helps us learn, process, and grow.



learn or register

Marriage Prep

Schedule 2025

Sundays, Feb 23 & Mar 2
St. Peter Cathedral, Erie
8:30a-ending with 11am Mass
RSVP 814-453-6677

Saturday, July 12
St. Mark Catholic Center, Erie
8:00a-6:00p; Mass included
RSVP 814-824-1216

Sunday, March 2
St. Walburga School, Titusville
8:30a-5:30p
no Mass included
RSVP 814-827-4636

Sunday, September 7
Our Lady of Mercy, Harborcreek
8:00a-5:00p
Mass included
RSVP 814-899-5342

Saturday, March 15
Queen of the World, St. Marys
9:30a-6:15p
Mass included
RSVP 814-834-4701

Saturday & Sunday, Oct 11&12
Church of the Good
Shepherd, West Middlesex
12:00 noon-4:00p; no Mass
RSVP 724-528-3539

Fri & Sat, March 28 & 29
Our Lady of Peace, Erie
Fri, 5p-9p & Sat, 9a-1p
no Mass included
RSVP 814-833-7701

Sunday, November 2
St. George, Erie
8:00a-4:00p
Mass included
RSVP 814-864-0622

Sunday, April 27
St. James, Erie
9:00a-5:00p
Mass included
RSVP 814-899-6178

Mentor Cohort Schedule
Cohorts forming in
February and October.
RSVP 814-824-1261



<https://www.eriercd.org/familylifeoffice/>