



DIOCESE OF MADISON

MARRIAGE PREPARATION PROCESS FOR ENGAGED COUPLES

1. Initial Meeting(s) with Parish Priest, Deacon or Pastoral Minister

2. FOCCUS Inventory conducted through the Parish

3. Diocesan-sponsored Marriage Preparation Seminars

The order of the days should be decided after consultation with your parish priest

Real Life, Real Love

A witness and dialogue day with married couples sharing their experiences on key topics including self-awareness, communication, intimacy and marriage as a faith journey. Engaged couples spend time dialoguing privately on these issues.

Program Information

Format: Witness sharing by married couples, engaged couple reflection & dialogue

Length: 1-day, typically on Saturdays with some weeknight alternatives

Location: Hosted by parishes around the Diocese

Size: Up to 25 couples

Team Couple Commitments

Facilitators: Married couples

Annual Commitment: Lead 2-3 seminars and attend 4-hour enrichment opportunity

Prerequisites: Develop three 10-minute presentations on topics. Train with other married couples according to your schedules

God's Plan for a Joy-filled Marriage

Seminar style training on the Catholic meaning of marriage and sexuality. An invitational approach for the couples to better understand church teachings and embrace Jesus Christ as the center of their relationship.

Program Information

Format: Teaching seminar w/dialogue opportunities for couples

Length: 1-day, typically on Saturdays with some weeknight alternatives

Location: Bishop O'Connor Center & regional parishes

Size: 25 – 30 couples

Facilitator Commitments

Facilitators: Individuals or married couples

Annual Commitment: Lead 2-3 seminars and attend 4-hour enrichment opportunity

Prerequisites: Complete God's Plan Facilitator Training and 2-3 follow-up meetings with experienced trainer

Optional Weekend Retreat combining both components available twice/yr

4. Natural Family Planning Course (Recommended)

5. Final Meeting(s) with Parish Priest, Deacon or Pastoral Minister