

## Five Steps of Marriage Preparation At Holy Faith Church



### Step One (1 hour): Preliminary meeting with the Pastor

- ◆To discuss documents
- ◆To discuss Marriage Preparation Fees
- ◆To discuss Financial Management

### Step Two: Parish Resources

- ◆Marriage Spirituality Seminar (2 hours)
- ◆FOCCUS survey and Review (1 hour + 2-3 hours)
- ◆Natural Family Planning (5 sessions)

### Step Three: Other Resources

- ◆Engaged Encounter (a weekend) **or**
- ◆PreCana (a day) **or**
- ◆Marriage Preparation online (5 sessions)

### Step Four: Preparing the Wedding Liturgy

This step is done when the wedding is at Holy Faith

- ◆Liturgical Preparation (45 minutes)
- ◆Music preparation (45 minutes)

### Step Five: Obtain Wedding License

#### Saturday Wedding Times at Holy Faith:

Morning: 11am    Afternoon: From 12pm to 2:30pm  
Evening: 7pm

## Step One: Preliminary Meeting with the Pastor

Fr. John Phillips, Pastor: [fr.john@holyfaithchurch.org](mailto:fr.john@holyfaithchurch.org) 352-376-5405 ext. 111

### ◆To discuss documents

(1) **Baptism Certificates:** Catholics must furnish a Baptism certificate *recently issued* by contacting the church in which you were baptized. Other Christians can present a copy of a certificate from their church of baptism.

(2) **Freedom to Marry Affidavits:** These affidavits testify that you have never been married before. They are to be signed by two witnesses (usually parents, relatives or friends). The two witnesses can sign separately if necessary. Your witnesses may either sign their affidavit in the presence of a priest or deacon who seals it or use a notary.

(3) **Dispensations:** The Pastor will arrange for permissions from the Bishop if these are needed. When marrying someone who is not Catholic, the Catholic reaffirms that he or she will continue to attend Mass and practice the Catholic Faith and to share this Faith with their children, usually raising them as Catholic.

### ◆To discuss Marriage Preparation Fees:

A fee of \$175 is required to cover the costs of parish materials and counseling.

If the wedding is at Holy Faith, \$100 is required for the accompanist and \$100 for the cantor. Thus, the total fee would be \$375

Fees should be paid at the beginning of your preparation. When making a check for these fees, *note on the check that it is for Marriage preparation*. Bring to the church office or put it in a Sunday Collection.

Other fees are involved in Step Three and with the Natural Family Planning course. *If you need assistance with any of the fees of preparation or need to pay in installments*, do not hesitate to contact the parish's Finance Assistant, at 376-5405 ext. 119

### ◆To discuss Financial Management

You will receive for your assistance the book  
*Financial Peace Revisited* by Dave Ramsey  
Ramsey also has a helpful website:  
[www.daveramsey.com](http://www.daveramsey.com)

## Step Two: Parish Resources

- ◆**Marriage Spirituality Seminar:** You will learn about God's blessing of your marriage and its nature as a public covenant of love.

Contact Deacon Mike Demers at 376-5405 ext. 109 to schedule

- ◆**FOCCUS survey and Review:** This is a communications survey which can deepen your knowledge of one another.

Contact Deacon Mike Demers

- ◆**Natural Family Planning:** This is a method that helps a couple plan a pregnancy or delay it through natural means (5 sessions \$185)

Contact Chris Pampo at 372-3383

## Step Three: Other Resources

The Diocese requires additional preparation to that of the parish.

There are three options of which you choose one:

- ◆**Engaged Encounter** (a weekend) see [www.dcf.org](http://www.dcf.org) (\$280)

or

- ◆**PreCana** (a day) see [www.dcf.org](http://www.dcf.org) (\$79)

or

- ◆**Marriage Preparation online** (8 hours) see [www.catholicmarriageprepclass.com/](http://www.catholicmarriageprepclass.com/) (\$195)

**Note:** If you choose the Marriage Preparation online, you do not take FOCCUS. Instead, through this option you take a different premarital inventory called Couple Checkup which is discussed with you by Deacon Mike. Be sure to have the results emailed to him at:

[dcn.michael@holyfaithchurch.org](mailto:dcn.michael@holyfaithchurch.org)



#### Step Four: Preparing the Wedding Liturgy

This step is done when the wedding is at Holy Faith. The Liturgy is the Church's public worship. The Catholic Church has a specific ceremony for weddings

◆**Liturgical Preparation** (45 minutes): Contact Letty Valentin, the Liturgy Director  
[lv.holyfaith@gmail.com](mailto:lv.holyfaith@gmail.com) 376-5405 extension: 107

◆**Music preparation** (45 minutes): Contact Christina Logan, Music Director 256-9365

It is required that you meet with the Liturgy Director *before* meeting with the Music Director, photographer and florist and before making any other plans for decorations or church ceremony

Also see the brochure: "[Practical Considerations for Marrying at Holy Faith](#)"

#### Step Five: Obtain Wedding License

If marrying in Florida, you may obtain your wedding license at any County Courthouse.

Before getting your license go to  
[www.alachuacounty.us/Depts/Clerk/Pages/Marriage.aspx](http://www.alachuacounty.us/Depts/Clerk/Pages/Marriage.aspx)  
for very important information.

You will receive a Certificate of Marriage Preparation from the parish before getting your license.

A **Certificate of Marriage Preparation** will qualify you for a reduced license fee and no waiting period for the time of issue. The parish can give you a Certificate. Pre-Cana and Engaged Encounter, and Marriage Preparation on Line also issue Certificates of Completion.

Your wedding license is only valid for 60 day from time it is issued