

Our Lady of Mount Carmel Catholic Church

Marriage Preparation Program Instructions for Engaged Couples 2016-2017

Congratulations on your upcoming wedding! We are pleased to work with you as you prepare for this very special and very spiritual celebration of the Sacrament of Marriage.

As soon as you announce your engagement and/or set your wedding date, you should get started with the Marriage Preparation Process. Ideally, the Marriage Prep Process should be COMPLETED at least SIX MONTHS prior to the date of your wedding.

OLMC Marriage Preparation Program Components:

1. Pre-marriage FOCCUS inventory
2. Meetings with the priest who will preside at your wedding (the number of these meetings will be determined by the priest)
3. Attending one session of *Introduction to Theology of the Body* Marriage Prep Workshop
4. Three to four sessions with a Mentor Couple before the wedding
5. At least one session with a Mentor Couple after the wedding

Engaged Couple Checklist and Timeline:

8 to 12 months before wedding

Contact OLMC parish office (317-846-3475) or olmcparish@olmc1.org to:

- θ Schedule time to take the Pre-marriage FOCCUS Inventory
- θ Set a meeting with the priest
- θ Schedule wedding with parish secretary

Register for mandatory Marriage Preparation Program

- θ Register for *Introduction to Theology of the Body* Marriage Prep Workshop

Contact Tom Ponchak: Email – ponchakt@olmc1.org; Phone – 317-663-4010.

(Choose the session that is furthest out from your wedding.)

Sun. Feb. 26, 2017, Noon to 5 p.m., St. Thomas Aquinas Room

Sun. Aug. 27, 2017, Noon to 5 p.m., St. Thomas Aquinas Room

- θ Mail fee for Marriage Prep workshop and materials to: Tom Ponchak, OLMC, 14598 Oak Ridge Rd., Carmel, IN 46032 (\$60 - OLMC parishioners; \$75 - non-parishioners; checks payable to OLMC).
- θ Schedule 3 to 4 sessions with Marriage Prep Mentor Couple (Engaged couple will meet Marriage Mentor Couple at Marriage Prep workshop.)

6 to 7 months before wedding

Read over the readings for marriage ceremony. They can be found at [OLMC1.org/Sacraments](http://www.olmc1.org/Sacraments)
Speak with Sandy Gruening, OLMC Wedding Coordinator (Sandy will contact you).

Schedule a time to meet with Rex Rund, OLMC Liturgical Director to choose music. Selections can be found at <http://www.olmc1.org/sacraments/matrimony/wedding-music/>

1 month before wedding

- θ Present Marriage License to priest who is preparing you for marriage.
- θ (Catholic parties only) Celebrate Sacrament of Reconciliation (i.e. Confession) before wedding day.