

DOCUMENTS & REQUIREMENTS NEEDED FOR MARRIAGE PREPARATION

Documents Needed:

1. **Current Baptism Certificate:** Catholic party needs to contact Church of Baptism and request a current baptism certificate with notations. Certificate should be sent to you and brought to the church office. We need the complete address of the Church on the certificate so that after you are married, we can send them notification of your marriage.
2. **Communion and Confirmation:** If you have certificates, we will take copies.
3. **Previous Marriage:** If one or both of the parties has been married previously, we will need a copy of the marriage certificate and divorce decree. Annulment process may be necessary.

Procedures

4. **Initial Interview with Priest:** Contact Gigi at the Church Office (813) 681- 4608 to set an appointment with a Priest. After meeting with the Priest, the couple will be asked to take the PREPARE & ENRICH Assessment. **A nonrefundable deposit of \$100.00 is required.** If the marriage is celebrated at Nativity Church, your deposit will be applied to the wedding fees. If the marriage is to be celebrated at another parish, there is a \$200 fee for preparation and the Prepare and Enrich assessment. We will need the name of the Priest and the name and address of the Church where the wedding will be celebrated.
5. **PREPARE & ENRICH:** Is a survey which consists of several statements regarding important marital attitudes. Once administered, it helps you to discover your strengths as a couple and those areas that still need growth. You will be given a Login Code during your appointment to access the Prepare & Enrich Assessment. The assessment can be taken in the comfort of your home and at your convenience. You do not have to be together to take the assessment. Once completed, please contact the Church Office to schedule a follow up appointment to review the results of the assessment with the priest.
6. **Diocesan Retreat:** A registration form will be given to you by the Priest for retreats given by the Diocese of St. Petersburg. You have the option of picking weekend dates that best fit your individual needs. At the end of the retreat you will receive a certificate, a copy of which should be brought here to the Church Office.
7. **B Forms:** Requires two witnesses for the groom and two witnesses for the bride. These can be family members or friends, who give testimony as to the freedom to marry of the couple. These forms must be signed before a Priest or a Notary. The witnesses can come here to the Church Office, or they can be done out of the office and returned to the Church Office.
8. **Convalidation:** Couples that are married civilly and would like to marry in the Church, the same rules apply. We will need a copy of your marriage certificate.
9. **Dispensation:** If one of the parties is not Catholic a dispensation will be sent to the Tribunal