

MARRIAGE PREPARATION

Staff Contact: Beth Thielk

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In the Archdiocese of Denver, certain requirements have been established by the archbishop for a couple to be married in the Catholic Church. These requirements are meant to ensure that the couple is introduced to the biblical, doctrinal, pastoral and practical instructions related to receiving the sacrament of Matrimony and to fulfilling its purpose and responsibilities in daily life.

At Our Lady of Loreto Parish this instruction is broken down as follows:

8-12 Months prior to wedding

❖ *Initial Meeting with Parish Priest or Deacon*

To begin the preparation process so that inquiry can be made into the requirements of both canon and civil law regarding marriage. Contact Beth Thielk to schedule an appointment with a priest or deacon.

❖ *Receive a Blessing at Mass with other engaged couples*

6-9 Months prior to wedding -Preparation

❖ *Mentoring Couple Sessions & FOCCUS Inventory*

The couple will be assigned to one of several small groups under the leadership of a married couple who will guide the engaged couple(s) through a biblical, doctrinal, and pastoral course on marriage and married life. There are 7 sessions that typically meet twice a month.

❖ *Natural Regulation of Fertility Classes*

A requirement by the archbishop for all engaged couples to complete. A minimum of three months is required to cover the course material. OLOL offers the CCL symptom-thermal method, Creighton Model of FertilityCare, and Marquette Method.

❖ *Parish Classes*

A parish priest will facilitate a class on **Theology of the Body** and **The Rite of Marriage/Marriage and the New Evangelization**. This will be offered three to four times a year.

4 Months prior to wedding

❖ **Meet with the parish Wedding Coordinator**

The wedding coordinator will assist you in the planning of your ceremony and who will arrange your wedding rehearsal.

2 Months prior to wedding

- ❖ **Schedule a final meeting with the priest or deacon**
- ❖ **Have all documentation completed and turned in**
- ❖ **Have all certificates turned in**
- ❖ **Receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation**
- ❖ **Finalize plans for the wedding liturgy**

Our Lady of Loreto Parish will not confirm any dates for marriage until the couple has met with the priest and submitted the required letters of agreement.

MARRIAGE CONVALIDATION (Blessing of Marriage)

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Convalidation is a rite within the Catholic Church allowing a civilly-married couple to enter into full communion within the Catholic Church. Couples seeking this celebration will complete marriage preparation requirements.

ANNIVERSARY MASS

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It is always a great joy to recognize couples who have reached a milestone in their marriage - 25 years, 50 years, 50+ year. Celebrate the witness of their fidelity to the sacrament of marriage with a renewal of the marital vows.

ANNULMENT

Clergy Contact: Deacon Chris Tranchetti – ctranchetti@ourladyofloreto.org