

# Marriage Preparation



## FOCCUS INVENTORY

FOCCUS is a tool designed to help couples deepen their discussions and build unity - it's not a compatibility test! 2-5 months before the wedding, your priest (or another facilitator) will give you directions to access the FOCCUS inventory and schedule a follow up meeting.

1

## MEET WITH YOUR PRIEST

Call the parish at least 6 months before your wedding to select the date for your wedding and arrange the remaining meetings with your priest or deacon.



2

## DEEPEN YOUR RELATIONSHIP

Select and attend a marriage preparation opportunity 4-6 months before your wedding (or earlier, if you prefer)! See reverse for options.

3



## LEARN NFP

Natural Family Planning (NFP) is a scientifically supported, Church-approved method of learning about your shared fertility and planning your family. Learn more at [www.eriecnd.org/chastity/](http://www.eriecnd.org/chastity/)

4



## PLAN THE CEREMONY

Meet with your priest to plan your wedding ceremony 2-4 months before your wedding, you will choose readings, confirm music and decoration plans, and clarify expectations about the ceremony.

5



learn more

# Deciding on a Preparation Experience

Are you preparing for a second marriage or bringing children into the marriage?

*yes* →

## NOVA

The NOVA mentorship program covers the basics for a happy, holy marriage AND offers specific sessions tailored for those with children or entering a second marriage, such as blending families and integrating past experiences. To book your NOVA mentorship, please call 814-824-1261.

↓  
*no*

Which of the following most closely matches what you are looking for in a preparation experience?

## ENGAGEMENT ENCOUNTER

A retreat.

We want time to focus on our relationship, away from the demands of everyday life. Bonus points for a date-like feel and the opportunity to get to know others at a similar point in life.

## PRE - CANA

Information.

Please give us the information and we'll figure out how to apply it on our own time!

## MENTOR COHORT

Long term growth. Give us a chance to bring our authentic selves into a community of experienced (mentor) and new (other engaged) couples that cares about us and helps us learn, process, and grow.



learn or register

# Marriage Prep

## *Schedule 2025*

Sundays, Feb 23 & Mar 2  
St. Peter Cathedral, Erie  
8:30a-ending with 11am Mass  
RSVP 814-453-6677

Saturday, July 12  
St. Mark Catholic Center, Erie  
8:00a-6:00p; Mass included  
RSVP 814-824-1216

Fri & Sat, Feb 28 & Mar 1  
Our Lady of Peace, Erie  
Fri, 5p-9p & Sat, 9a-1p;  
no Mass included  
RSVP 814-806-2423

Sunday, September 7  
Our Lady of Mercy, Harborcreek  
8:00a-5:00p;  
Mass included  
RSVP 814-899-5342

Sunday, March 2  
St. Walburga School, Titusville  
8:30a-5:30p  
no Mass included  
RSVP 814-827-4636

Saturday & Sunday, Oct 11&12  
Church of the Good  
Shepherd, West Middlesex  
12:00 noon-4:00p; no Mass  
RSVP 724-528-3539

Saturday, March 15  
Queen of the World, St. Marys  
9:30a-6:15pm  
Mass included  
RSVP 814-834-4701

Sunday, November 2  
St. George, Erie  
8:00a-4:00p  
Mass included  
RSVP 814-864-0622

Sunday, April 27  
St. James, Erie  
9:00a-5:00p  
Mass included  
RSVP 814-899-6178

### **Mentor Cohort Schedule**

Cohorts forming in  
February and October.  
RSVP 814-824-1261



**Engagement Encounter** at St. Mark Catholic Center, Erie  
Friday, January 17-Sunday, January 19  
<https://www.eriercd.org/familylifeoffice/>