

# Marriage Preparation Resurrection Parish Family

Dear Bride and Groom,

Congratulations on your engagement and choosing to be married in the Catholic faith. As you continue the journey of marriage preparation, strengthen your relationship with daily prayer together. God + each of you in the relationship makes it almost indestructible - Ecclesiastes 4:12.

The next step is to complete the following approximately six months prior to the wedding date;

- Review the Marriage Preparation Overview
- Reserve church space and reception venue.
- **Baptismal Certificates** Bride and Groom each contact their parish of baptism and have new baptismal certificates created and signed by the parish of baptism and have them mail to;

Resurrection Parish 333 Hilltop Drive Green Bay WI 54301 (attention Marriage Prep).

- Form A, Pre-nuptual interview with marriage prep person. This form declares that both partners are free to enter into marriage.
- **FOCCUS** Facilitating Open Couple Communication, Understanding and Study. The marriage prep person will schedule this for you. The Marriage Preparation Overview has further information.
- Marriage as a sacrament read brief 2 pages.
- Marriage Preparation Process Diocese of Green Bay
- Marriage Preparation Checklist
- Select one of the following options
  - Weekend Retreat
  - In person Seminar (opportunity to learn from other couples)
  - On-line Pre-Cana

The next step, usually completed during 3-5 months prior to the wedding is planning the liturgy (music, readings, etc), writing letters of love (see below), obtaining the civil marriage license and preparing the many details of your special day.

#### **Letters of Love**

### Hello Engaged Couple,

We hope you are getting some spiritual time to sit back and reflect on your journey together. Your wedding day, surrounded by family and friends as witnesses of your lifetime commitment to each other, is a special time to celebrate and share your Love for each other!

## Please write a letter of love addressed to your future spouse for life responding to the following questions;

- Letters of love written to each other, but not shared with each other, emailed directly to me, kdecleene@gbres.org
  - o Each of you write a brief (paragraph or so) response to the following questions.
  - o Keep confidential and do not share with each other.
  - o Email me a copy 1 month prior to the wedding.
  - o Get some quiet time (20 -30 min) to reflect and pray over this as you write. Ask the Holy Spirit to calm your mind and open your heart as you write.
    - a. I remember the story of our first date; Where did you meet? What do you remember about that first date and the people you were with? What was it about your date that made you want to meet again and to take steps toward a longer and deeper friendship...
    - **b.** I see Christ (goodness) in you through... reflect on this, pray over this, write thoughts that come to your mind, short paragraph approx. 3-5 sentences
    - c. I want to make a lifetime commitment and spend the rest of my life with you because...

The Resurrection Prayer Chain Angels and community hold you in prayer and I am praying for both of you as you continue to prepare for your wedding day.

### **Resources and Guidelines**

- Preparing for your Christian Wedding
- Appropriate Song Suggestions
- Potential Music Ministers

The parish uses "Together for Life," ISBN: 978-1-59471-722-2, to help plan the liturgy. It is available online or through the parish office.

- Together for Life Webpage
- Together for Life Selection Forms:
  - Open Response Form
  - Online Form

Review requirements set forth by the Catholic Diocese of Green Bay, including "In Perfect Union: Living the Sacrament of Marriage," from the State of Wisconsin Catholic Marriage Compendium.

### Congratulations. Loving All God's People, All the time.

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