

## Marriage Preparation Ministry



The Marriage Preparation Ministry is led by a married couple in good standing to prepare engaged couples for the Sacrament and covenant of marriage in the Catholic Church. The program consists of one meeting per week for up to 8 weeks. The program utilizes the Church's recommended study material, as well as, other Christian based books that stress the *“wedding” is a day; the “marriage” is a lifetime.*

Most sessions are one-on-one with the team leaders. Occasionally, two couples will be journeying through the program at the same time. Sessions are usually held on Monday evenings from 6:30 to 8:00 PM at the home of the ministry leaders.

As soon a couple schedules a wedding at St. Thomas the Apostle, they are referred to the “Marriage Preparation” leaders. Ideally, the wedding should be on the Church's schedule at least a year in advance as the Marriage Preparation classes are held in the spring and fall.

**It should be noted that the marriage preparation course is required by the Catholic Church before a wedding can take place in the Church; it is not optional!**