

# Marriage Preparation Ministry



The Marriage Preparation Ministry is for preparing 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.

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.

For more information please contact Deacon Bill Bruening, Marriage Advocate, through the Parish office at 530.533.0262.

**\*\*\*It should be noted that the Catholic Church requires the marriage preparation course before a wedding can take place in the Church; it is not optional! See "Sacraments" for Diocese of Sacramento guidelines.**