

What should you know About your preparation wedding???

Who may marry in our parish church?

The answer to this question is governed, in part, by the Code of Canon Law of the Roman Catholic Church. Generally speaking:

- * Members of our parish may celebrate their weddings at St. Peter/ Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church;
- * Roman Catholics who live within the boundaries of the parish, but who have no formal relationship with the parish community, may speak to someone on the parish staff about establishing a relationship with the parish - about celebrating a wedding in the future;
- * Former members of the parish or visitors seeking a wedding at our church need to receive written permission from their pastor in their home parish in order to marry at St. Peter/ Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church.

Pre-marriage programs approved by the Diocese of Santa Rosa

PREPARE - a pre-marriage inventory administered by EVENINGS FOR THE ENGAGED - hosted by Catholic married couples. Call (707) 526-1167 (Santa Rosa)

ENGAGED ENCOUNTER WEEKEND

A weekend experience which frees the couple to concentrate on their new hopes, doubts, and dreams for their future marriage in the light of the Christian faith.
www.engagedencounter.org

PRE-CANA (San Rafael) - an intensive, one-day program.

Contact: www.sffamilylife.com

FOCCUS profile and two counseling sessions - call John Norris, (707) 775-5936

If you are members of a different Diocese/ Archdiocese the preparation programs may vary.

Please be certain you are free to marry in the Catholic Church prior to enrolling in any pre-marriage program. Note: availability and cost can vary. Please contact our parish office for more information.

St. Marys Immaculate / St. Peter
801 N. Main St.
Lakeport Ca. 95453
(707) 263-4401

Guidelines For Couples Preparing to Marry



Weddings are special and joyful times for brides and grooms, for their families, friends, and for the parish community. The new beginning, the love, the promise and hope that weddings symbolize make a special grace-filled celebration in our lives. Indeed, so important is marriage in Christian life that it is called a sacrament.

Great care is taken to see that the prayer for this special moment is reverent and dignified. Our celebrations of the sacraments, marriage included, are always rooted in listening to the scriptures so that we can be nourished and strengthened by God's word.



**St. Mary Immaculate
& St. Peter
Catholic Church**

Lakeport -Kelseyville, CA.

Tel. (707) 263.44.01 Fax. (707) 263.06.06



PRE-MARRIAGE REQUIREMENTS

The priest/deacon will discuss the preparation process with you in detail. This process includes:

1. Personal affidavit, stating your identity, your status in the Church, and your freedom to marry. (If either party has been married before—whether in the Church or not—extra time may be needed to determine freedom to marry.)
2. Witness testimony of a close relative or friend, confirming the information in your personal affidavit.
3. You will need to produce the following documents:
 - a. Baptismal certificate no more than six months old;
 - b. Copies of your First Communion and Confirmation certificates, or the dates and places where these sacraments were received;
 - c. If one of the parties is a widow or widower, a death certificate of the late spouse
 - d. If one of the parties has received an annulment, a copy of the declaration of nullity;
 - e. If one of the parties is a non-Catholic, a baptismal certificate for that party, if available;
 - f. Marriage License: a valid California marriage license issued by any county in the state. The license should be given to the priest/deacon at the rehearsal. This along is your civil and legal marriage

document.

4. In an interfaith marriage, promises must be signed by the Catholic party regarding the baptism and raising of children in the practice of the Catholic faith.
5. An open and frank discussion of your readiness for marriage as a Sacrament, and your participation in the marriage preparation program.
6. A Marriage Preparation program approved by the Diocese of Santa Rosa, or by the Diocese/Archdiocese where the couple resides is to be completed at least two months before the tentative wedding date (*see center panel other side*). The priest/deacon will also discuss with you the issues raised in the preparation process and your readiness to celebrate the



Sacrament of Matrimony, with special focus on personal prayer, on our faith, and on Christ as the center of your married life together.



PLEASE NOTE: Diocesan policy requires steps 1-5 are to be completed prior to the priest/deacon setting a firm date for the wedding. Please do not make any firm commitments (e.g., to printers, photographers, etc.) until a firm date has been set with the priest/deacon.

The fee for the church is \$450 for parishioners, \$550 for non-parishioners. There is a requirement non-refundable deposit of \$100 dollars. The rest of the donation should be complete at least 15 days prior to the celebration. Should the wedding be canceled within 3 months of the reserved date, you will forfeit 25% for the processing fee.

Please consider also the donation for the priest that celebrates the wedding according to your generosity.

We want your wedding to be as special as possible. We invite your questions, comments and we pledge an open hearing for your requests. In return, we ask your openness to the ritual of the church and the customs of our parish.

“Beloved, if we love one another, God dwells in us, and his love is brought to perfection in us” (1 John 4:12)