

Planning a Catholic Wedding?

If you are planning to marry in the Catholic Church the most important thing you need to do is to engage a celebrant (Catholic priest or deacon) to marry you. Your intended celebrant will need 3-6 months' notice and will be able to guide you in the matters of Marriage Preparation courses, Government and Church paperwork, preparation of your wedding booklet, arrangements for a wedding rehearsal, and so on. Your celebrant will inform you as to the marriage preparation he would like you to undertake. Marriage preparation will usually include a few meetings with your celebrant as well as one or more of the following pre-marriage education options:

The Archdiocesan / CatholicCare marriage preparation course is conducted on the first Tuesday of every month (except January) at the CatholicCare office in Red Hill. This session runs from 5pm to 9pm and involves each member of the couple filling out a detailed questionnaire called The FOCCUS Inventory. A feedback session is arranged for some time later in the month to discuss the results of the questionnaire with a trained facilitator. A complimentary 6 month check in with the facilitator is also offered to couples who would like to take up the option. After completing the questionnaire, couples gather for a meal and to hear some input about marriage from a priest and from a married couple. Time is provided for each couple to draw aside in private to discuss the issues that are being raised. Cost is \$300 per couple. To book in phone 02 6162 6100. Enquiries ring or text 0429 192 867 To book phone 02 6162 6100.

Evenings for the Engaged is a program run over two consecutive Saturdays (9am-3pm). There are between 6-8 couples in each course, private time is provided for each couple to build a closer relationship while exploring important topics.

The course is presented by married couples and topics include, Family of Origin, Communication, Intimacy in Marriage, The Sacrament of Marriage (presented by a Priest), God in Marriage, Building a Stronger Marriage. The cost is \$150 which includes catering and resources. For more information, contact Pru and Peter Grist at prugordon@gmail.com

Next courses:

Saturdays 4th & 11th July 2020, Murrumbateman

Saturdays 10th & 17th October 2020, Murrumbateman

Catholic Engaged Encounter is a weekend for engaged couples run in Sydney. While many couples attend the weekend and hear the input together, there is no personal sharing with the whole group. The only personal sharing which takes place is between you and your fiancé. Private time is provided for each couple to build a closer relationship while exploring the following topics: their future lives together; their strengths and weaknesses; their desires, ambitions & goals; their attitudes about money, sex, children, family and their role in the church and society. Cost approximately \$250 (\$370 with accommodation) Call 02 9868 2924 or visit www.engagedencounter.org.au