

Guidelines for the Preparation of Couples for Marriage

Related Resources

Updated: October 2016

1. Resources for Remote Preparation

The Explore Experience – opportunities for school age students to hear and question couples directly about their marriages: www.theexploreexperience.co.uk

Marriage Care's relationship education work: www.marriagecare.org.uk/how-we-help/relationship-education

2. Proximate Marriage Preparation

Rituals for use in the period of Engagement: The Order of Blessing and Engaged Couple see *The Order of Celebrating Matrimony*. English Translation according to the Second Typical Edition. Catholic Truth Society, 2013.

www.liturgyoffice.org.uk/Resources/Marriage

A Blessing of Engaged Couples (and other prayers): *Catholic Household Blessings and Prayers*. Washington, DC: USCCB www.foryourmarriage.org/catholic-marriage/catholic-beliefs/prayers-and-blessings

Marriage & Catholics: A Guide to Getting Married in a Catholic Church.

www.marriagecare.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/marrying_in_a_catholic_church.pdf

Information and links to marriage preparation programmes:

www.catholicfamily.org.uk/what-we-do/marriage/marriage-preparation

Marriage Preparation in Ireland: <http://www.accord.ie>

The Sacrament of Marriage, a CaFÉ DVD for marriage prep, enrichment, and formation

www.faithcafe.org. Catholic Evangelisation Services

Applying Equality Law in Practice: A practical guide for Catholics in England & Wales, a brief outline of equality law to help Catholics understand this complex area of law and its application to all ministry.

www.cbcew.org.uk/content/download/53039/409602/file/equality-law-in-practice-2014.pdf

Marriage & Family Life Project Office

www.catholicfamily.org.uk

Catholic Trust for England & Wales. 39 Eccleston Square, London SW1V 1BX

Registered in England & Wales. Registered Charity Number: 1097482 Company Number: 4734592

Support with inter-Church marriage preparation

The Association of Inter-Church Families

www.interchurchfamilies.org.uk/resources/support-information/getting-married

See also: 'One Bread One Body (1998) Bishops' Conferences of England, Wales, Scotland and Ireland, a teaching document on the Eucharist in the life of the Church and the establishment of general norms on sacramental sharing,

<http://www.cbcew.org.uk/content/download/34886/259052/file/one-bread-one-body-1998.pdf>

Support with inter-faith (inter-religious) marriage preparation:

When Two Faiths Meet: Marriage, Family & Pastoral Care. Christian Muslim Forum.

www.christianmuslimforum.org/images/When%20Two%20Faiths%20Meet%20guide%20lines.pdf

The Inter-Faith Marriage Network <http://interfaithmarriage.org.uk>

A Catholic Priest's Perspective on Interfaith Marriage

www.interfaithfamily.com/life_cycle/weddings/A_Catholic_Priests_Perspective_on_Interfaith_Marriage.shtml

See also Chapter 5 of Meeting God in Friend and Stranger. CBCEW, 2010

www.cbcew.org.uk/content/download/34848/258821/file/meeting-god-friend-stranger.pdf

Natural Family Planning/Fertility Awareness Resources

General Information:

Planning a Family Naturally www.catholicfamily.org.uk/what-we-do/marriage/family-planning-naturally

www.natural-family-planning.info

The Billings Method: www.woomb.org/ www.thebillingsovulationmethod.org

The Creighton Model: www.creightonmodel.com

Naprotechnology: www.naprotechnology.com

Websites with more detailed information and/or lists of teachers:

Fertility UK www.fertilityuk.org

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The Natural Family Planning Teachers' Association www.nfpta.org.uk

NHS Family Planning Association information about Natural Family Planning
www.fpa.org.uk/contraception-help/natural-family-planning

3. Immediate Marriage Preparation

Preparing the Roman Catholic Wedding Liturgy

See Appendix 2 of the Guidelines. This is taken from the Introduction to the Order of Celebrating Matrimony.

A Guide to Choosing the Readings and other useful information
www.liturgyoffice.org.uk/Resources/Marriage/Lectionary.shtml

4. Continuing Support of Married Couples

Teams of Our Lady - couples meeting monthly for friendship, prayer and mutual support
www.teamsgb.org.uk/index.html

Marriage Encounter – marriage enrichment weekends <https://wwme.org.uk>

Cana for Couples – time out for couples with their children www.chemin-neuf.org.uk/cana-couples-familles-en/cana-couples-et-familles

Lectionary readings – reflections on marriage by Two in One Flesh
www.twoinoneflesh.org.uk

5. Support of marriages in difficult times – relationship counselling

Marriage Care www.marriagecare.org.uk/how-we-help/relationship-counselling

One Plus One www.oneplusone.org.uk

Retrouvaille: a possible life-line for some troubled marriages, consists of a residential weekend and follow up days www.retrouvaille.org.uk

Catholics Experiencing Domestic Abuse Resources www.cedar.uk.net

Marriage & Family Life Project Office
www.catholicfamily.org.uk

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