

CHECKLIST FOR ALL ENGAGED COUPLES PREPARING FOR MARRIAGE

- January 21: Engaged Couples Meeting and FACET Inventory**

After we receive the results of the inventory, we'll contact all engaged couples in chronological order according to wedding date to set up a convenient time for us to meet at the Parish Center. You'll have an opportunity to speak with each other about topics of interest to married couples. Father Keefe, Father Matt, or Deacon Bob will be present as a mostly silent mediator in the conversation.
- First Thing To Do: Engaged Couples Conference or Engaged Encounter Weekend**

As soon as possible after receiving this checklist, sign up for an Engaged Couples Conference or Engaged Encounter Weekend that is no later than a month before your wedding. To register for either the single day Conference or the Weekend, follow the instructions on the flyers and pamphlets provided in your wedding packet. If you have additional questions, you can contact the *Office of Family Life* at **860-242-5573, ext. 2690**.
- If You Haven't: Obtain Copies of Sacrament Certificates**

You will need to obtain certificates signifying your previous reception of the Sacraments of Baptism, Holy Communion, and Confirmation. It is essential to submit *recently issued* certificates, within the last six (6) months, and that they have the parish church's seal on them. *Please do not submit original certificates*. Contact the parish church where you received your sacraments to request these certificates. If you received any sacraments from here at St. Mary Church, you will not need to request certificates for those sacraments. Upon receiving your certificates, please drop them off at the Parish Office as soon as you can.
- Any Time Before Your Wedding: Schedule the Rehearsal**

At any point between now and your wedding date, contact the Parish Office to schedule the date and time of your wedding rehearsal with Emily Naylor, St. Mary Church Secretary. She can be reached in the Parish Office at **203-488-1607** or by emailing enaylor@stmarybranford.org.
- Six Weeks Before Your Wedding: Marriage License**

Approximately six weeks before your wedding date, apply for your marriage license at the Branford Town Hall. For more information, call the **Town Clerk's Office** at **203-315-0678**. This marriage license will only be valid for sixty-five (65) days, so don't apply too early. You can always confirm a correct timeframe with the Clerk by giving your wedding date before applying.
- Four to Six Weeks Before Your Wedding: Music**

By about four to six weeks before your wedding date (or sooner if you wish), make sure to contact Jorge Prego, Director of Music Ministry at St. Mary Church, to plan the music for your ceremony. He can be contacted at jorgeprego@hotmail.com. Please review and select music from the "Wedding Music Suggestions" sheet in your wedding packet.
- One Month Before Your Wedding: Offering**

At least one month before your wedding date, drop off a single check for \$500.00 to the Parish Office. Your check should be made out to "St. Mary Church" and will cover the entirety of your wedding offering.
- One Month Before Your Wedding: Ceremony Selections**

No later than one month before your wedding date, submit the detachable form from the "Together for Life" booklet so that one of the priests or the deacon will be able to help you plan your ceremony. Before submitting the form, please make yourself a copy for personal reference.
- Two Weeks Before Your Wedding: Marriage License**

No later than two weeks before your wedding date, bring your marriage license to the Parish Office.
- On the Night of Your Rehearsal: Bring Whatever You Can**

On the night of your wedding rehearsal, bring everything you'll need for the ceremony itself (the Unity Candle, side candles and holders, wedding programs, or whatever you've chosen to include). You may leave all such items in the Sacristy for safekeeping between the rehearsal and the ceremony.