

How to Get Married

in the Archdiocese of Chicago

PREPARACIÓN MATRIMONIAL EN ESPAÑOL PAGINA 4
NAUKI PRZEDMAŁŻEŃSKIE W JĘZYKU POLSKIM, INFORMACJE NA STRONIE 6 i 7.

Congratulations!

We are happy you have decided to marry in the Catholic Church and will be receiving the graces and blessings associated with the Sacrament of Matrimony. There is education and preparation for all the sacraments of the faith, and this guide will help you choose the best class for you.

The name PreCana is based on the Wedding Feast at Cana, where Jesus performed his first public miracle, changing water into wine at the request of his mother. Pre means before, so before your personal Wedding Feast at Cana, your own wedding day, we help you prepare for the Sacrament of Matrimony and start you on your journey to a happy, healthy, and holy lifelong marriage.



Steps to Getting Married in the Archdiocese of Chicago

- 1. Meet with your parish priest or deacon.** Get the information about guidelines for marriage at the parish. Ask how to arrange for appropriate music for the ceremony. You will also begin to fill out some of the required papers.
- 2. Take a premarital inventory.** The inventories recommended by the Archdiocese as being both research and scientifically based with a Catholic understanding of marriage are the Catholic Couple Check Up available at marriageandfamilyministries.org or FOCCUS. Both inventories are taken online and both are accepted.
- 3. Attend a marriage preparation class.** Classes are listed in this booklet and on the website. Register online or call 312.534.8201.
- 4. View supplemental videos about topics unique to your own experience.** Videos about ceremony planning, cohabitation, children of divorce, forming a stepfamily, interchurch and interfaith, military, second, and African American marriages are available on the website.
- 5. Learn about Natural Family Planning.** Learn about the only method of family planning morally-acceptable to Catholic teaching by taking a class in person or online at learnNFPonline.com.
- 6. Consult with your priest or deacon.** Discuss any concerns raised in your marriage preparation class, share the results of the premarital inventory, and review the ceremony details. Complete the required paperwork and review the readings and music you have chosen.
- 7. Buy a marriage license and attend your wedding rehearsal.** Be sure you buy your marriage license at least one but no more than 60 days before the ceremony. The wedding rehearsal takes place at your church with those involved in the ceremony as determined with your priest or deacon.
- 8. Enjoy your wedding day as you receive the Sacrament of Matrimony.** Begin your lifetime commitment to one another, your own marriage in the Lord.
- 9. Attend newly married continuing education workshops in your first years of marriage.** There are five different workshops to choose from to help you enrich your marriage.