

Marriage Prep Information

Step 1. Welcome and orientation

Once you have submitted the online Wedding registration Form, you will be contacted by Janice Maginn, the Sacraments Coordinator at St John Neumann. She will request from any Catholic parties a currently dated baptismal certificate with notations. For a non-Catholic, baptized Christian, a Certificate of Baptism or a letter from a family member stating that the person was baptized and the approximate date is also requested. Once those have been received she will schedule an appointment for the couple with a deacon. After completion of the meeting with the deacon, reception of baptismal certificates, and the payment of the deposit and church fees you may schedule the wedding date.

Step 2. Turn in Your Witness Affidavits

At your initial meeting with the priest or deacon you will be given a short form to be filled out by a friend or family member that will testify to your suitability for marriage. Each couple will be given two affidavits and these can be turned in at any time during the process.

Step 3. Begin Marriage Prep

There are several approved marriage prep options. Please select at least one of these options:

- A. **Sponsor Couple or Couple to Couple Preparation offered at St. John Neumann:** This encompasses several meetings in the home of a married sponsor couple who exemplify a firm marital commitment themselves. The couple will work through a workbook with the Sponsor Couple.
- B. **“Journey into Marriage”** retreat is offered by **Pat and Richard Thompson** at, **EMMAUS** in Lakeway, Texas. In this course all of the marriage prep requirements of St John Neumann (NFP course, FOCCUS Test, and retreat) are offered. You may call **Richard (512)-261-8124** or **Pat (512) - 970-7063** or email: journeyintomarriage@austin.rr.com to schedule a retreat.
- C. **Together in God’s Image:** This retreat is offered in our Diocese and outside the Diocese. To find out when and where such retreats are held you can go to the Austin Diocese Website. This retreat requires the completion of the FOCCUS Questionnaire before attendance.

Step 3. Take the FOCCUS Questionnaire

This questionnaire can be taken in many different ways. Those who attend the “Journey Through Marriage” retreat in Lakeway, Texas (information provided above) will be provided an opportunity to take this Questionnaire during these sessions. If you are not planning to attend the course in Lakeway, you may talk to Janice Maginn about taking it on-line.

Step 4. Attend a Natural Family Planning Introduction Course.

To register for these introduction classes you may sign up on-line at <http://www.austinfcc.org/>. Those who attend the “Journey into Marriage” retreat in Lakeway, Texas (information provided above) will be provided an opportunity to take this course during these sessions.