

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, you have known at least 10 years, that will testify to your suitability for marriage. Each couple will be given two affidavits each 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, B, or C.

Within each option below there are 3 components.

1. Some type of retreat/meetings with a mentor couple
2. FOCCUS test
3. Intro to NFP (Natural Family Planning) class.

- A. SJN Sponsor Couple Preparation offered at St. John Neumann:** This encompasses several meetings in the home of a married sponsor couple that have been trained by St John Neumann and who exemplify a firm marital commitment themselves. This is a free marriage prep option. The couple will work through a workbook with the Sponsor Couple. You will meet in the home of the sponsor couple approximately 6 times. We feel this is the most beneficial marriage prep option. You will also need to take the FOCCUS test. Our clergy will email you the link for that test. The last component is the NFP class. Sign up for that is at the following link <https://www.vitafertility.com/nfp-talk-marriage-prep/>
- B. Together in God's Image:** Diocesan marriage formation nights will be offered online via ZOOM. Registration is available at <https://www.austindiocese.org/marriage-prep-calendar-1> . Please complete the FOCCUS questionnaire before attendance. Our clergy will email you the link for that test. The required NFP class is included in this class.
- C. Online marriage preparation through <https://catholicmarriageprep.com> .** This online option will also have you work with a mentor couple virtually. You will also need to complete a required intro to NFP (Natural Family Planning) class. To sign up for that, go to this link. <https://www.vitafertility.com/nfp-talk-marriage-prep/> . The last component is the FOCCUS test. Our clergy will email you the link for that test.