

Congratulations!

The Catholic Community at UCSD congratulates you on your engagement and on your desire to marry within the Church.

This pamphlet will help you plan and prepare for your wedding day and a lifetime of marriage. Please read the entire pamphlet before calling the office to begin your preparation.

Are you a registered, practicing Catholic in our community?

If either the bride or groom has been a registered, practicing Catholic in the Catholic Community at UCSD for at least two months, then you may begin your marriage preparation here.

Membership in this community is extended to students, faculty, and staff of the University of California, San Diego, as well as anyone else who wishes to serve in our mission to and with UCSD.

The First Step

After *reading the brochure found in the kiosk at Church or online*, please email or call the Administrator,

Patty Stewart, at cathcom@UCSD.edu or (858) 452-1957, M-Th, 10a.m. – 2 p.m. Patty will email you a Word doc or ask you a series of questions in order to complete an initial intake form. Feel free to ask any questions you might have when you contact the Pastoral Assistant for Administration.

Nine Months Preparation

After you have read this pamphlet, and at least nine months before your desired wedding date, contact the office. You will be asked some basic information, including whether you would like Father John Paul or Father Joseph to help you prepare for marriage, and whether someone else will be the priest witness at your wedding.

While there is always a possibility that Fr. John Paul or the Associate Director may be transferred and unable to complete your preparation with you or to return for your wedding, a replacement will definitely be secured for you.

During your first meeting with Fr. John Paul he will explain more about

the wedding preparation and an *initial interview* will take place with both bride and groom regarding their freedom to marry.

The Wedding Date and Place

At this first meeting, you may also select your wedding date (which needs to be outside of Lent). You may choose to have the actual wedding ceremony at another Catholic Church, either in your hometown or locally. A letter of permission will be written for you as community members. And the process of preparing can still be done here at the Newman Center, Catholic Community at UCSD.

Preparation

Sunday Mass. The most basic part of a Catholic's preparation for marriage in the Church is to celebrate Mass with your local community each Sunday.

Process of Preparation. As part of the Diocese of San Diego our community members adhere to diocesan recommendations. The bride and groom attend a weekend

Engaged Encounter (or a series of six Evenings for the Engaged if approved). You will also attend 2 Saturday Diocesan Marriage Prep workshop days with other engaged couples in the Diocese. A 2-hour session on Natural Family Planning is suggested.

Meetings with your priest. During the DMPP (Diocesan Marriage Preparation Process) workshop you will fill out a very helpful survey covering issues of religion, family life, sexuality, finances, etc. This survey [FOCCUS], as well as the other elements of preparation, will be the basis for two or more conversations with your priest. Before you send out wedding invitations, your priest will need to confirm your preparedness.

Wedding Ceremony

Finally, your priest will help you plan your wedding ceremony. The norm for two Catholics is to celebrate the wedding within a Mass. When one of the parties is not Catholic, the norm is to celebrate the wedding without a Mass

Donations and other expenses

Simplicity is encouraged, but even the simplest wedding will involve, in addition to any dress, decoration, photography, and reception costs, the following approximated donations and expenses.

Church	\$300-900
<i>(depends upon Church selected)</i>	
Preparation donation	\$200-250
Engaged Encounter,	<i>see website</i>
Diocesan Marriage Prep	<i>fee</i>
Natural Family Planning,	<i>fee</i>
Priest/witness stipend	\$175-200
<i>plus travel costs if needed</i>	
Musician, approx.	\$175-200



Love
One Another

Marriage Preparation



You, O God, created us
in love to share your
Divine **L**ife. We see our
Destiny in the love of
Husband and **W**ife,
which bears the imprint of
your Divine **L**ove.

-Prayer from the Nuptial Mass