

Registration Form

Bride's Information:

Name: _____

Name for Badge: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Phone: _____ Age: _____

E-Mail: _____

Religious Denomination: _____

Education Level: _____ Occupation: _____

Groom's Information:

Name: _____

Name for Badge: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Phone: _____ Age: _____

E-Mail: _____

Religious Denomination: _____

Education Level: _____ Occupation: _____

Parish where you are receiving Marriage Prep:

Date & Church of Wedding: _____

Married Before? (Y/N) Bride _____ Groom _____

Dietary Restrictions: _____

Engaged Encounter Preference:

Date/ Location of 1st Choice: _____

Date/ Location of 2nd Choice: _____

NORMS FOR MARRIAGE PREPARATION

Marriage preparation in the Diocese of Harrisburg shall take place over a minimum of nine months and consist of the following components:

- 1. Canonical Process** - Initial interview with the priest or deacon where the required canonical forms are completed.
- 2. Pre-marital Inventory** (e.g. FOCCUS, PREPARE, etc.).
- 3. Formation** - Meet at least four (4) times with a mentor couple, a priest or deacon, or another parish-appointed leader for marriage preparation. At least one of these meetings must be with a priest or deacon for an instructional session on the nature of Catholic marriage.
- 4. Retreat** – Attend a diocesan marriage preparation retreat per the preparing clergy's instructions. Note that these Retreats fulfill the diocesan requirement to attend a short introductory talk on Natural Family Planning as well as a talk on the sacramentality of marriage.
- 5. Concluding Assessment** – Meet with the priest or deacon for a final assessment before marriage (done as needed).
- 6. Liturgical Planning** – Meet with the priest or deacon (and any other liturgical ministers) to plan a prayerful and reverent ceremony.



2025 Marriage Preparation

Diocese of Harrisburg
Laity & Family Office
4800 Union Deposit Road
Harrisburg, PA 17111-3710
(717) 657-4804 ext. 303

www.hbgdiocese.org/cee





What is an Engaged Encounter Weekend?

Engaged Encounter is a group experience designed to give couples private time to plan their future together. The weekend gives couples who are planning to marry the opportunity to communicate with each other—individually, honestly, and intensively—about their prospective lives together: their strengths and weaknesses; desires, ambitions, and goals; their attitudes about money, sex, children, and family; and their roles in the Church and in society.

What happens during the weekend?

The weekend begins Friday evening and ends Sunday afternoon. A trained team of married couples present talks to the group on important aspects of married life. After each presentation, the engaged couples are given the time to write about their thoughts and feelings, then discuss them privately with their partner. This is an intense but highly worthwhile weekend that allows the couple to concentrate on building their relationship with each other and with God. Although there are other people on the weekend, *Engaged Encounter* is meant to be a couple's experience.

Where are Engaged Encounters held?

All weekends are held at a hotel in the capital region (specific details follow after registration). Reservations are limited to approximately 15 couples. Please note that all sleeping rooms are pre-assigned by the Laity & Family staff—two people of the same gender are in each room.

What is the cost of the weekend?

The weekend cost is **\$400 per couple with a \$200 deposit due at registration**. The fee includes overnight lodging, meals, and materials. The registration fee is transferable but non-refundable. However, no couple should let financial concerns prevent them from making an *Engaged Encounter* weekend. Payment arrangements can be made on an individual basis if the couple or their parish cannot afford the expense.

Where can I register?

Registration may be done by mail or online, and you may register up to two weeks before a weekend. If you are registering **within two weeks** of a weekend, please note that some weekends fill up much earlier and anyone registering within two weeks is encouraged to contact the Laity & Family Office **before** attempting to register. Registrations are **not** guaranteed until you hear from the Laity & Family Office.

Questions?

Call the Laity & Family Office at
717-657-4804, ext. 303
or email CLEV@hbgdiocese.org

Program Dates for 2025

Engaged Encounter

January 24-26

April 25-27

November 7-9

Terms and Agreement:

We understand that the following rules apply while registering for and attending the *Engaged Encounter* weekend:

1. The weekend is open to any man and woman who are engaged, or considering engagement, and who want to prepare for a deeper, more meaningful life together in marriage. You must be at least 18 years old to attend *Engaged Encounter*.
2. Participants must be present for all weekend sessions, and should not leave the conference before it is completed. Check-in is Saturday morning and concludes Sunday afternoon. If an emergency arises and you need to leave the conference at any point, please notify one of the presenters.
3. All sleeping rooms are pre-assigned by the Laity & Family staff—two people of the same gender are in each room. Engaged couples do not stay together.
4. Participants will refrain from the use of alcohol and drugs during the weekend.
5. All cancellations and transfers must be done by 12:00 pm on the Thursday two weeks prior to the start of the weekend. If you cancel or transfer after 12:00 pm on the Thursday two weeks prior to the start of the weekend, no refund will be given for your registration fee (owing to the contractual obligations *Engaged Encounter* and the Diocese of Harrisburg have with the hotel and other vendors).
6. We agree that by registering and submitting payment that we release *Engaged Encounter* of Harrisburg, the Diocese of Harrisburg, and all of their agents, associates, volunteers and employees, from any and all liability associated in any way with our attendance at the weekend program.

We accept the above Terms and Agreement for Engaged Encounter.

(please initial)