

Where Is Journey to Matrimony Held?

The program takes place near downtown Tampa. Details will be included in the confirmation letter.

*How Do We Sign Up? **

You can apply online by going to:

<https://www.dosp.org/jtm-application/>

After completing the application, you will be directed to **another site to submit payment.**

* **NOTE:** Be sure your schedules are free of other commitments. You must both be present for the entire program.

How Do We Know We're Confirmed?

While there could always be an exception, applications are usually processed within a few days of being submitted. Upon doing so, a confirmation letter will be sent as an attachment to each email address included on the registration form. This letter will:

- ◆ confirm the date you are registered*
- ◆ give the address where the program takes place
- ◆ provide details not included in this brochure as well as reiterate the postponement and cancellation fees

Since confirmation is coming from an unknown sender with a ".org" extension, some servers might consider this SPAM. If your INBOX doesn't show confirmation within **2 weeks of submitting your paperwork, check your junk mail folder.** If after looking in both locations you still haven't heard from us, please contact our office at deb@dosp.org

*While we can usually accommodate couples for their preferred date, due to availability it is sometimes necessary to confirm their second choice instead.

The fees outlined in this brochure go into effect once your paperwork is processed and a confirmation letter is generated.

What If We Have to Cancel or Postpone?

Regardless of circumstances:

- To postpone without penalty, notice **must** be received a **minimum of 14 days** prior to the originally scheduled date. Those who postpone with less notice are subject to a **\$100 rebooking fee.**
- The **\$100 fee** also applies when couples are a **no-show** and wish to reschedule.
- Cancellations must be received in writing. Refunds are issued less **\$50** providing notice is received **14 or more days in advance.** Otherwise, the fee increases to **\$100** when less notice is given.

Additional Information

- ◆ A certificate of completion is presented to each couple at the end of the day providing the bride and groom are both present for the entire program.
- ◆ Since this is a couple-based experience, we are unable to accommodate individuals. If you can't attend together...please contact us.
- ◆ If either of you were **previously married**, check with the priest or deacon assisting with your preparation to see if the **Remarriage Program** might be a more suitable option.
- ◆ **If you have children:** regardless of age and/or circumstances, we are unable to accommodate them during the program. Please make arrangements for their care while you're with us. Also...don't forget to arrange care for your pet(s) as well.

If you have any questions that aren't addressed in this brochure, don't hesitate to contact us!

Office of Marriage & Family Life

Mon. thru Fri. 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

*Email: deb@dosp.org
Phone: 727 – 341 – 6847*

Journey to Matrimony 2024

*A One-Day Comprehensive
Preparation Program
For First Marriages*

*Marriages that last a lifetime
demand love, loyalty,
forgiveness, and God's grace!*

A Wedding is a Day...



A Marriage is Lifetime!

*Office of Marriage & Family Life
Diocese of St. Petersburg*

*Congratulations on your decision to marry!
It is our pleasure to accompany you as you
journey toward the Sacrament of Matrimony.*

This comprehensive one-day program is intended for engaged couples when the bride and groom are both entering marriage for the first time. It is based on the belief that successful marriages thrive when they are built on a strong, firm foundation. Our hope is that this experience will enrich a couple's relationship as they look toward the Sacrament of Marriage and spending a lifetime together. Various topics are covered using a variety of presentation methods that include the program facilitator, marriage & family therapist or licensed mental health counselor, married couple(s), and/or DVD's.

When Should We Attend?

A few things to consider. . .

- ▶ While it is our recommendation that couples attend Journey to Matrimony a **minimum of 3 months** prior to their wedding date, this is ultimately a decision to be made by the priest or deacon assisting with your sacramental preparation.
- ▶ Try to avoid signing up for the program the month of or month before your wedding. That way should something unexpected arise that might cause you to postpone, there will still be other opportunities to complete this requirement.
- ▶ To increase the chance of being confirmed for your preferred date, it's best to apply as far in advance as possible.
- ▶ To avoid the late fee, apply for your preferred date prior to the registration deadline.
- ▶ Keep in mind that availability can change on a daily basis.

2024 Program Dates and Application Deadlines*

January	20 th	Deadline 1/5/24
February	17 th	Deadline 2/2/24
March	16 th	Deadline 3/1/24
April	20 th	Deadline 4/4/24
May	18 th	Deadline 5/3/24
June	15 th	Deadline 5/31/24
July	20 th	Deadline 7/3/24
September	21 st	Deadline 9/6/24
October	19 th	Deadline 10/4/24
November	16 th	Deadline 11/1/24

Whether we can confirm your preferred date depends on the availability at the time your paperwork is submitted. Registrations are processed in the order received.

A **\$50 late fee applies to applications completed after the deadline.*

A Helpful Suggestion. . .

It's better to submit the application and payment rather than contacting us to check availability. Should space be very limited, the time spent waiting for a response could be the difference between whether we can confirm your preferred date or not.

The fees and penalties outlined in this brochure don't go into effect until your paperwork is processed, therefore there is no risk of losing money prior to being confirmed.

Application Details

How Much Does It Cost?

Before the deadline - **\$175** per couple
After the deadline - **\$225** per couple

Those with financial difficulties should contact **deb@dosp.org**

What Is Include?

All program related costs, materials, lunch, and dinner.

What About Dietary Needs?

As long as notice is received by the registration deadline, we can usually accommodate **most medically necessary** dietary requests. While we do our best to meet everyone's needs, we may not be able to assist those with extreme restrictions.

Due to the number of people that attend, we're not able to accommodate food likes, dislikes, personal preferences, and/or lifestyle choices such as low fat, lo-carb, Keto, etc. Please limit requests to allergy/health related needs only. Each meal usually consists of a protein, starch, salad, vegetable, bread/rolls, and dessert. Hopefully everyone, including vegetarians, should be able to work around the menu.

NOTE...dietary requests cannot be accepted once the registration deadline passes.

What Are The Times Of The Program?

This comprehensive one-day program begins at 8:30 a.m. and will end no later than 8:30 p.m.

We realize this is a long day but please be mindful that the Catholic Church puts a lot of emphasis on sacramental preparation.

It is our hope that couples find this experience a good investment of their time as they look toward spending a lifetime together!

(Cont. on next page)