

Additional Information

Where Is Journey to Matrimony Held?

The program is held in Tampa. Details will be included in the confirmation letter.

What Is Include?

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

What About Dietary Needs?

Most dietary requests can be met, but we ask that they be limited to those that are **medically necessary**. Menu choices offered by the caterer may keep us from being able to assist those with extreme needs.

We are not able to accommodate food likes, dislikes, personal preferences, or lifestyle choices such as Keto, low fat, low carb, etc. Meals typically consist of a salad, starch, protein, vegetable, bread/rolls, and dessert. Hopefully, everyone will be able to work around the selected menu.

What Are The Times?

The program begins at 8:30 a.m. and ends no later than 8:30 p.m.

We get it...it's a long day...it is for us too! Out of respect for everyone's time, we felt it was best to consolidate this into one day rather than two. We must also ensure that the marriage preparation requirements are being met for both the Catholic Church and State of Florida.

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

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- ◆ Each couple will receive a certificate of completion providing the bride and groom were both present for the entire program.
- ◆ Since this is a couple-based experience, we are unable to accommodate individuals. If you cannot attend together, please contact our office for further instructions.
- ◆ If either of you were **previously married**, contact the priest or deacon assisting with your sacramental preparation to see if the **Remarriage Program** might be a more suitable option.
- ◆ **If you have children:**

While we totally support families, regardless of age and/or circumstances we are **not able** to accommodate children during the program.

Please make arrangements for their care while you are with us.

Since there isn't time to leave throughout the day, if you have pets remember to arrange for their care as well.

*If you have any questions or
need further assistance...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 2026

*A One-Day
Preparation Program
For First Marriages*

A Wedding is a Day...



A Marriage is Lifetime!



ROMAN CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF
SAINT PETERSBURG

COURAGEOUSLY
Living the Gospel

*Office of Marriage
and Family Life*

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

Our hope is that this experience will enrich your relationship as you look toward the Sacrament of Marriage. The program is intended for engaged couples when the bride and groom are both entering marriage for the first time. Various presentation methods are used which include the program facilitator, a marriage & family therapist or licensed mental health counselor, married couple(s), and/or DVD's.

When Should We Attend?

A few things to consider. . .

- Programs sometimes fill up fast so don't wait to apply.
- We recommend attending **a minimum of 3 months** prior to your wedding but ultimately this is decided by the priest, deacon or parish assisting with your sacramental preparation.
- To allow ample time to complete this requirement, we suggest that you avoid signing up for the program the month of or month before your wedding.

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

Schedule & Deadlines

You must both be present for the entire program so be sure your schedules are free of other commitments.

January	17th	Deadline 1/7/26
February	14th	Deadline 2/4/26
March	21st	Deadline 3/11/26
April	18th	Deadline 4/8/26
May	16th	Deadline 5/6/26
June	20th	Deadline 6/10/26
July	18th	Deadline 7/8/26
September	19th	Deadline 9/9/26
October	17th	Deadline 10/7/26
November	21st	Deadline 11/10/26

Registration Details

The registration fee is **\$150 per couple**

Apply online at:

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

- After completing the application, you will be directed to **another site for online payment**.
- Keep in mind that submitting the application and payment doesn't mean you are automatically registered for your preferred date. Whether we can confirm you depends on the space situation at the time your paperwork is received.
- Applications are usually processed within a few days of being submitted.

Those with financial difficulties should contact the office.

How Do We Know If We're Confirmed?

Every attempt is made to confirm your preferred date. Due to availability, we must sometimes confirm the alternate choice instead.

Once your paperwork is processed a confirmation letter will be emailed to each provided address with the subject line:

Journey to Matrimony Confirmation

This will:

- ◆ acknowledge the date you are registered
- ◆ give the location of the program
- ◆ outline additional details

Since the email is coming from an unknown sender, it may end up in your **Junk Mail folder** so be sure to check that as well. If you haven't heard from us within 2 weeks of submitting your paperwork...please contact our office.

What If We Have to Postpone or Cancel?

The below goes into effect once a confirmation letter is generated.

- To postpone or cancel without penalty, notice **must be received in writing a minimum of 10 business days** prior to the date for which you are confirmed.
- Couples who postpone or cancel with less than the required notice are subject to a **\$100 penalty**.
- The **\$100 penalty** also applies to any couple that is a **no-show** to the program for which they were registered and needs to reschedule.