

Congratulations as you begin to prepare for the Sacrament of Matrimony in the Catholic Church. Sacraments are generally received in a person's home parish, and the Sacrament of Matrimony is no exception. If either of you regularly attends Holy Rosary but is unsure if you have registered, please call the office at (503) 235-3163 and the secretary will be glad to assist you. If you are registered elsewhere, you may be granted permission to marry at Holy Rosary Church under any of the following conditions:

- Baptism, First Communion, or Confirmation was at Holy Rosary
- Parents or grandparents are current parishioners
- At least one of you was registered at Holy Rosary before moving out of the area
- You have a special relationship with this parish or the Dominican Order

Fees and an outline of parish policies can be found in our wedding pamphlet.

Mindful of the teachings of the Church, cohabiting couples are asked to consider separating during marriage preparation. We realize this may present some sacrifice, but preparing for the Sacrament of Matrimony in the Catholic Church involves far more than wedding and reception planning. Couples who continue to live together throughout their engagement are not denied the Sacrament, but encouraged to exchange their vows more simply, with the priest and two witnesses. Everyone faces different challenges, and if circumstances would make this a particular hardship or you wish to meet with the pastor, we encourage you to request an appointment.

Sacramental preparation and wedding planning generally takes six months. After reviewing our policies and guidelines, contact the Director of Parish Education to talk about scheduling a rehearsal and ceremony date. We look forward to assisting you during this important time, and wish you many blessings on your engagement and future married life.

Janine Applegate