

# Sacrament of Marriage

## Requirements

1. Family Card
2. Recent Baptism Certificate
3. Confirmation Certificate
4. Sunday School Twelfth Grade Completion Certificate
5. Marriage Preparation Course Certificate
6. Recitation of the daily prayers before the Parish Priest
7. Letter from the Parish Priest of the other party
8. The Pre-Nuptial Form must be filled in the presence of the Parish Priest before the marriage
9. Three marriage banns must be announced before the wedding
10. One day of prayer and confession before the marriage ceremony

## Guidelines for the Faithful of the Diocese of Bhopal

To assist the faithful of the Diocese of Bhopal in preparing for the Sacrament of Marriage, the following guidelines are provided:

1. Couples should meet the parish priest at least **two months before the intended date of marriage.**
2. It is **very important to receive the necessary catechetical instruction** for proper preparation for marriage.
3. Attending a **marriage preparation course** is highly recommended.
4. A **recent Baptism Certificate** (issued within the last **six months**) must be submitted.

5. The **Pre-Nuptial Inquiry Form** must be duly completed before the marriage.
6. **Marriage banns** must be announced in all parishes where either person has lived for **more than six months after the age of 12 or 14 years**.
7. For the marriages mentioned above, **clear and explicit prior permission** is required.
8. When **one of the parties is Catholic** (whether the bride or the groom), the marriage must take place **in a Catholic Church in the presence of a Catholic priest**.
9. All **official church documentation and formalities** must be completed through the **parish priest**.
10. After the publication of the banns, **one or two weeks should be allowed** before the wedding day for the completion of correspondence and documentation.
11. All **necessary church-related formalities must be completed before the banns are announced**.
12. If either party is a **widow or widower**, the **death certificate of the deceased spouse** must be submitted. In cases of **marriage annulment or dissolution**, the **original official certificate** must be provided.