



# MARRIAGE IN *CHRIST*

## PRE-CANA A SPANISH MARRIAGE PREPARATION RETREAT DIOCESE OF RENO

For many couples, marriage preparation is the first time that they have any personal contact with a priest or deacon. Many engaged couples arrive un-evangelized and lack understanding of the significant importance of marriage in the Church and society. Couples are often unaware not only of Church teachings about marriage, but even the core notions of the Catholic faith and the basic expectations of Catholics. The participation of the priest or deacon in marriage preparation is a key chance to evaluate and set in place remedial actions to get the faithful on track and begin to focus them on married life.

### **Process to attend a Marriage Preparation Retreat – Pre-Cana**

The initial process begins at the parish and involves paperwork, such as producing affidavits of freedom to marry from parents or others close to the couple as well as baptismal certificates issued within the last six months. An engaged couple must also complete a questionnaire, often called a premarital inventory, which helps a priest or pastoral minister to identify areas of disagreement that require further discussion.

All engaged couples are expected to attend a day and a half day long Retreat for Engaged Couples, and convalidation couples with a priest approval.

### **The retreat is directed to:**

Engaged couples, and couples in existing civil marriage or living together and are considering receiving the Sacrament of Matrimony.

### **Diocesan marriage preparation retreat for Engaged Couples**

The pre-cana retreat for engaged couples are half day Saturday and daylong Sunday that feature dynamic presentations designed to provide a firm foundation for your future life together. The topics covered include the essential characteristics of married; a review of the family of origin and how this can affect their relationship, communication, and intimacy in marriage; finances and partnership in marriage; responsible parenthood and a brief introduction on natural family planning; the spirituality of Christian marriage; and the Christian family as the “domestic church.” Folders with resource materials are also provided to facilitate ongoing reflection and discussion by the couple. While the retreat is particularly geared to Catholic engaged couples, all engaged couples are welcome.

## **2024-2025 Dates**

The Pre-Cana Marriage Preparation Retreats are scheduled three times a year and run on Saturday from 5 pm – 9 pm and Sunday from 8:30 am – 5 pm. Check-in starts at 4:45 pm on Saturday and 8:00 am on Sunday. The fee for the day, including continental breakfast and materials, is \$90.00 per couple. Couples can register ONLINE by clicking the link: <https://renodiocese.jotform.com/MaripazR/pre-cana-online-registration-24-25>

Refunds for cancellations will be made up to one week before the date of the retreat.

These retreats take place mostly at the Diocese of Reno Pastoral Center. Upon acceptance of your application, confirmation with directions will be emailed to you. For more information, you may call (775) 326-9423 to speak with Maripaz Ramos, or please email her at [maripazr@catholicreno.org](mailto:maripazr@catholicreno.org) You can contact also, Ms. Lilanne Aguirre, our office assistant via email at [lilannea@catholicreno.org](mailto:lilannea@catholicreno.org) or by phone at 775-326-9415.

Good luck to you in the days ahead and may God bless you as you prepare for a lifetime together.

With the assurance of our pray,

Sincerely in Christ,

Maripaz Ramos  
Director, Office of Ethnic Ministry  
Diocese of Reno