

We're here to help!

Please do not hesitate to get in touch with us if you have any question about your marriage. We can usually answer your question straight away. If we can't, then we will find out and come back to you.

You will have many things to organise and arrange, we are very happy to advise you not only in terms of the service but with anything you may want to discuss with us.

It's our intention to give you the best start in your married life together.

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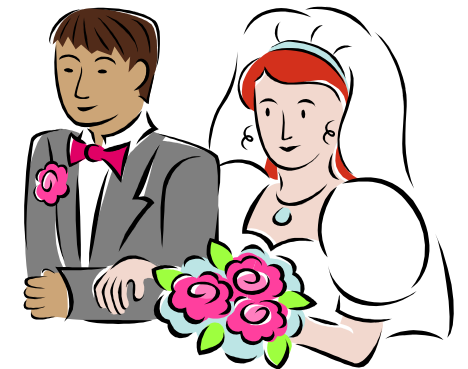
Call us or email and we'll get back to you

Catholic Parishes in West Cambridgeshire "working together"

Please contact us on the following numbers
Buckden - 01480 810344
Huntingdon - 01480 453257
St. Ives - 01480 462192
St Neots - 01480 472587



Marriage Preparation 2006



A guide to preparing for marriage in the Catholic parishes of Buckden, Huntingdon, St Ives and St Neots.

Marriage Preparation 2006



Preparing for married life. How the Church can help.

You have decided to get married in the Catholic Church and we will do everything we can to make your wedding day the most wonderful start to your married life together. We will explain to you everything you need to organise for the service and help you to plan your special day.

We will also get to know you as a couple to make your wedding service the personal event it should truly be.

We also see it as an important part of our duty to help you be as prepared as you can be to take your marriage vows and pledge your lives to each other in marriage.

We hope that this preparation course will not only be informative, but that it will also be fun as you meet with other couples who are planning their "big day" too!

Catholic Marriage Care is a national organisation devoted to providing support for those in relationship difficulty and they use their experience in this area to assist those in preparing for marriage. They are our partners in this preparation course and will provide some of the input.

There are five parts to the course and the details of each part are given in this leaflet. It is of the utmost importance that you attend all of the sessions.

Information session.

Depending on the numbers of couples getting married in each of the parishes, this session may be done individually with each couple or collectively. The priest or deacon will advise you of when and where you will meet. We will explain all you need to do with regard to the Civil Registration of your marriage. We will talk about the music, the flowers and all the other practical things you will be wanting to know about!

The Sacrament of Marriage

The Catholic Church teaches that marriage is a sacrament, that is to say that we believe God to be revealed in your love for each other. To help us explore what this means we will meet together on Saturday 25th February at 19.30 in the Parish Hall at St Ives. We will be joined by some married couples from that parish who will bring their experience and some tips! Fr Paul will lead us in our discussions.

Those all important vows!

On Saturday 25th March at 19.30 in the Parish Hall at St Ives we will meet again to explore the meaning and value of the marriage vows. These vows are made for life and reflect your love and commitment for each other. We will again be joined by some parishioners to help us in our exploration.

Marriage Preparation Day

In conjunction with Marriage Care we will hold a Preparation Days looking at some ways of getting the best out of your married life together. We will start at 10.00 with coffee and conclude at 16.30 with tea. Lunch will be provided. This is usually a great day with a lot of laughter as well as serious discussion. It will certainly get you talking! There is a charge of £15 per person for this day and should be paid in advance. This day will take place on Saturday 29th April and will be at the Parish Hall in St Ives. You will be given a booking form which should be returned to Fr Paul along with your payment.

Planning the service

One of the clergy, normally your parish priest, will meet with you as a couple on at least two occasions to deal with the inevitable paperwork but also to help you plan your wedding service. These meetings also gives the priest the opportunity to get to know you a little better and to make your wedding day more personal. You will need to get in touch with your priest and arrange these appointments, once you have started the preparation course.

If you have a priest or deacon in the family, or as a personal friend, and you would like them to conduct your service, that is fine, but please let us know as soon as possible. Also, if you are getting married in another church locally or outside the area, we will give you a certificate to say you have completed our preparation course. This should be given to the priest who will be conducting your service.

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Cambridgeshire
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**Huntingdon Register Office
01480 375821**