



St. Bernadette's Parish

529 Eastern Avenue • Fall River, MA 02723-2420
508.679.1991 (phone) • 508.676.5276 (fax)
www.saintbernadettefallriver.com

Marriage and Wedding Preparation Questions

Father Roger J. Landry

The goal of marriage preparation is for the priest to meet you where you are at and help guide you to where the Church hopes that you will be on the day of your wedding. Every couple is different and therefore marriage preparation is a little different for every couple.

That is why I've put together this short series of questions, to help me to get to know you better and to understand how you look at several of the topics that will come up in the course of our conversations together.

Your answers will also help me to get to know some of the history of your relationship together, which will allow me to start to see the hand of God working in your love. What you write will not only help me to prepare you more effectively, but also to preach the homily at your wedding in a much more personal way.

Please write *at least a few sentences* for each answer. If your first language is Portuguese, Spanish, French or Italian, please feel free to write your responses in that language. It would be easier for me if you typed out your responses, but you can write them with long-hand if you need to. I ask you to work on them independently, so that I can see each of your perspectives in your own words. Then please email me your responses (fatherlandry@saintbernadettefallriver.com) or mail or bring them by to me at the rectory.

Here are the questions.

- 1) Please briefly tell me about yourself. What is your family like? What do you do for a living? What are your major interests, hobbies, activities or involvements?
- 2) How did you meet each other? When did you start to date? How did you know the other was the "right one"? When and how did the proposal happen?
- 3) What does marriage mean to you?
- 4) Why do you think Christian marriage is a *sacrament*? What is the purpose of a sacrament?
- 5) What role does God have in your life today and in your relationship?
- 6) How would you define or describe love? How is marital love different from other types of love?
- 7) What do you love about the other?
- 8) In what ways has the other shown you how special you are to him/her?
- 9) How has the other inspired and helped you to change for the better?
- 10) What positive lessons about love and marriage did you learn from your family growing up? Were there any negative experiences (like a death in the family, or a separation or divorce, or fighting or other family problems) that you had to endure and learn from?
- 11) What is your relationship like with the other's family and friends? What have you learned about him/her through them?
- 12) Do you love children? Are you planning to try to start a family right away after you're married?