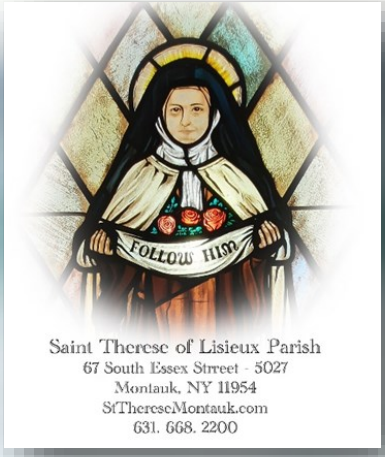

Saint Therese of Lisieux Parish
67 South Essex Street - 5027
Montauk, NY 11954
StThereseMontauk.com
631. 668. 2200

Congratulations on your engagement!

This checklist will assist you as you move through your engagement and prepare for Holy Marriage at St. Therese of Lisieux Church

IMMEDIATE: Completed prior to confirming wedding date

- ☐ **Marriage Inventory Form** from website submitted https://StThereseMontauk.com/marriage/
- ☐ **Pre Nuptial Investigation** "PNI" Completed

  ** You will need to complete a **P**re **N**uptial **I**nvestigation (hour-long meeting b/w bride, groom and priest/delegate) before you can confirm a date with our parish. Please contact your home parish ASAP and schedule a meeting to complete the PNI. The Parish of St. Therese will always defer to a couple's home parish for the completion of the PNI and marriage preparation. The reason is simple: this is your parish family and working through marriage preparation will help you become acquainted with your parish and priest/s - this will be your source of Sacramental Grace and Community that will assist you in the years ahead.
  If your home parish refuses to walk with you and accompany you as you prepare for marriage please let us know and we will discuss accompanying you through the process at St. Therese. We cherish every opportunity to evangelize!
- ☐ **I am free to marry** (If you complete your PNI at a parish other than St. Therese in Montauk please have your priest send us a letter stating "You are free to marry" and that he has "no objections" to you proceeding with marriage.

3 - 6 MONTHS before wedding

- ☐ **Bride's Certificate of Baptism** dated within six months of your wedding date
- ☐ **Groom's Certificate of Baptism** dated within six months of your wedding date
- ☐ **Pre-Cana** Certificate of Completion
- ☐ **Contact our Music Director** to discuss music selections. While most pop songs / soundtracks from movies are not bad *per se*, they are not fitting for a Sacred Space. Please read "Music Selection Principles" from our website before speaking with: Kyle McCann – StThereseMTKmusic@gmail.com | 516.617.9698
- ☐ **Meet with priest / deacon** who will be witnessing your marriage
- ☐ **Signed Affidavits of Freedom to Marry** (required for baptized non-Catholic / non-baptized)

1 – 3 WEEKS before wedding

- ☐ **Marriage License** dated within 60 days, not within 24 hours, of your wedding date
- ☐ **Wedding Preference Form** from website submitted https://StThereseMontauk.com/marriage/
- ☐ **Submit balance** of offering for your marriage 30 days before wedding

  * Musician fees are separate from church fees

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Feel overwhelmed?

You are not alone.

We are here for you and your fiancé and it is our pleasure to help you through the checklist as you prepare for your big day!

Here are some preliminary points regarding Holy Marriage in the Catholic Church—

According to the Canon Law (the law of the Church), for a marriage to be valid:

- At least one of the spouses must be a baptized Catholic
- The wedding must be celebrated in a Catholic church in the presence of a Catholic priest/deacon/bishop and two other witnesses
- The spouses must be free to be married (e.g., no prior valid marriages)
- They must be psychologically mature and capable of consenting to the marriage
- They must understand the nature of Catholic marriage (i.e., exclusive, permanent, and open to having children)

A marriage that doesn't follow the Canon Law requirements (e.g., a civil marriage) is not valid in the eyes of the Church. A Catholic should not enter into such a union.

Under the regulations of the diocese, the spouses must also meet with the priest/deacon who will be witnessing their marriage, and they must attend a marriage preparation program often referred to as "PreCana."

These requirements are not just technical. They are designed to help you have a good, solid foundation for a happy marriage.

When you meet with the priest/deacon who will be witnessing your marriage, he will ensure all Canon Law requirements for marriage have been met.

More FAQ's → FOR YOUR MARRIAGE

https://www.foryourmarriage.org/catholic-marriage-faqs/