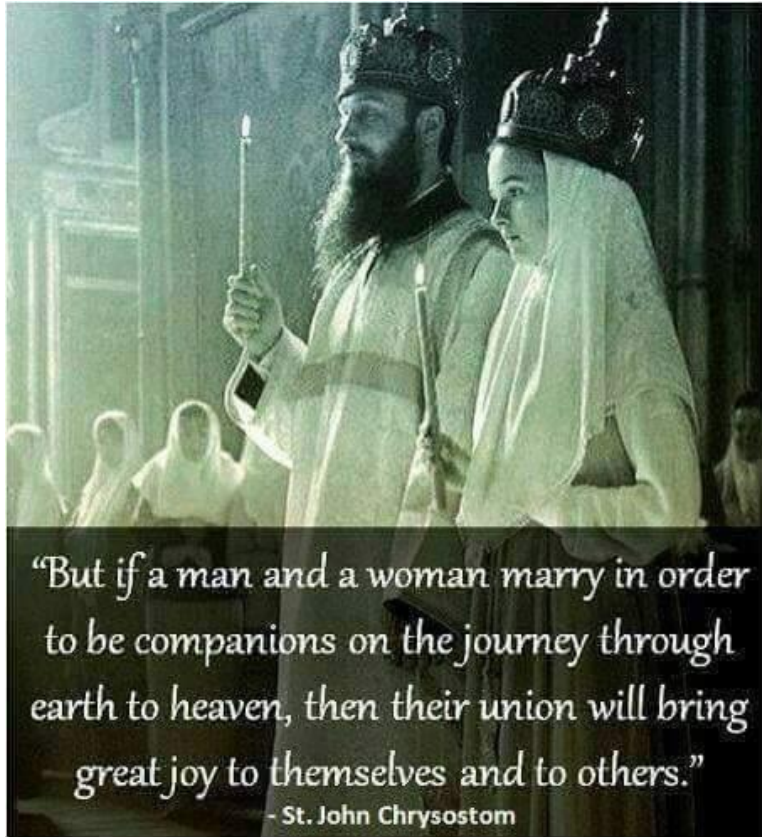




Marriage Preparation Worksheet



The Purpose of Marriage

1. Who Created Marriage?
2. Why is Marriage a Sacrament? What Does it Mean to be a Sacrament?
3. One of the precepts of the Church is to observe the laws of marriage. Am I prepared to do that?

Write Your Answers:



Children

1. What role do children play in marriage?
2. Am I prepared to enter a marital union and raise children?
3. Will I raise my children in the Catholic Faith? Why is this necessary?
4. Are we open to as many children as the Lord desires to send us?

Write Your Answers:

Faith

1. How important is the Catholic Faith to us? Are we prepared to put God at the center of our relationship?
2. Do I understand that marriage is a vocation?
3. Is God calling me to marriage? Is this how I will live out my life as a Catholic?

Write Your Answers:



Lifelong Commitment

1. Do I understand that marriage lasts forever, and Catholics do not divorce?
2. Does my fiancé also understand this?
3. What measures will we put into our lives to be sure that we are well prepared before taking our vows before the altar of God?

Write Your Answers:

Careers

1. Have I discussed my career choice with my spouse?
2. Do we have a realistic plan in place for our careers?
3. Has sufficient attention been paid to the raising of our children? Will our career choices allow us to provide for them?
4. Will my career choice, along with that of my soon to be spouse's choice, allow us to sufficiently provide for our family?

Write Your Answers:



Attacks on Marriage

1. Will I be able to reject pornography? Do I need to look into Catholic resources to fight this sin?
2. Do I understand that sex is reserved only for marriage?
3. Do I know that cohabitation is a sin and has been shown to significantly increase the chance of a marriage failing?
4. Do I fully and completely reject abortion, which is the murder of a true unborn yet truly existing child?
5. Do I reject artificial contraception? Do I understand why the Church also rejects artificial insemination?
6. Do I desire to practice natural family planning and understand why and how to do so in order for NFP to not also be a form of contraception?
7. Do I understand that sex with anyone other than my spouse, even with the consent of my spouse, is a mortal sin?

Write Your Answers:

Financial Management

1. Have I discussed with my fiancé the importance of finances?
2. Do we have similar financial goals? Do we understand who will manage our money for us to achieve our goals?
3. Have we discussed retirement and what we aspire to in life. Do we have similar goals?
4. Have we discussed various retirement tools like 401(k)s and IRAs to help us achieve our goals?
5. Do we both have similar ideas on the importance of spending versus savings?
6. Do we both have a realistic monthly budget that allows us to provide for our families while also contributing to our parishes and our community?



Write Your Answers:

Conflict Resolution

1. Do I accept that conflict is a normal part of any marriage?
2. Am I and my fiancé prepared to look into and consider conflict resolution? Do I understand that I can solve problems with my soon to be spouse by talking honestly, fighting fair, and finding ways to avoid unnecessary conflicts in the future?
3. If we do have conflict, we will consider: humility (we are not always right), the importance of calming yourself before speaking when angry, the need to pray during conflict, the importance of not bringing up the past, and the need sometime for bringing in a trusted third party like a friend to help mediate our conflicts.
4. What ideas do I have on this topic? What difficulties do I foresee?

Write Your Answers: