

*Dear Friends in Christ,*

**Someone once said that a wedding happens in one day, but a marriage happens over a lifetime.**

Such a commitment deserves the most serious reflection and discernment one can make.

Marriage is a beautiful gift from God to the couple and to the whole Church. In fact, when Scripture talks about God's relationship with humanity, it does so more often than not through the analogy of husband and wife. There can be no doubt that God intended men and women to join together in marriage in order to cooperate with Him in giving life to others and helping others appreciate all of His gifts.

We rejoice with you as you discern this call from God in your own lives, and we want to support you on your journey.

**Please contact your priest or deacon at least six months — and preferably one year — before the planned date of your marriage, and prior to registering for our classes.**

May the Lord be with you as you continue to respond to His presence in your lives.

*Rev. Gary Studniewski, Administrator*



ST. PETER'S CATHOLIC CHURCH  
313 2nd Street SE  
Washington DC 20003

One block from the Capitol South Metro  
stop [Blue/Orange/Silver lines]

[www.saintpetersdc.org](http://www.saintpetersdc.org)

For more information on our

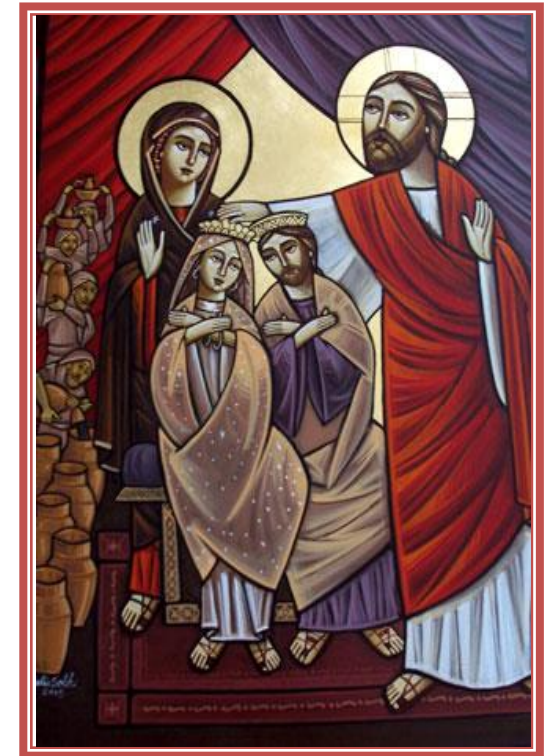
Pre-Cana classes:

Patrick Devenney

[rectory@saintpetersdc.org](mailto:rectory@saintpetersdc.org)

202.547.1430 ext 105

To speak with a priest regarding  
marriage at St. Peter's Church,  
please call or e-mail  
[parishinfo@saintpetersdc.org](mailto:parishinfo@saintpetersdc.org)  
202.547.1430



## 2018 Pre-Cana Classes

***There was a wedding in Cana in Galilee, and the mother of Jesus was there. Jesus and his disciples were also invited.***

**—John 3:1-2a**

St. Peter's Catholic Church  
Washington, DC

## Preparing for Marriage



**Classes are held at**

**St. Peter Catholic Church**

**313 2nd St SE**

**Washington DC 20003**

Classes are held in the Parish Hall

Use the entrance on C Street:

Elevator access on 2nd St to the left of  
the main church entrance.

**EACH SESSION CONSISTS OF**

**4 SATURDAY CLASSES,**

**9:30am – 1pm**

**COUPLES ATTEND ALL 4 CLASSES  
IN EACH SESSION**

**Fall 2018**

Oct 13, 2018

Oct 20, 2018

Oct 27, 2018

Nov 3, 2018

Registration fee is \$180 per couple:

Make checks payable to St Peter's Church

Mail to: 313 2nd St SE

Washington DC 20003

A sacramental marriage is very different from many of the living arrangements popular in our society. A civil marriage is no more than a contract: two people "get married" simply by filling out a form and standing before a judge.

A sacramental marriage is a covenant – a profound and enduring bond between a man and a woman based on their word. The worth of the promise depends on the quality of their word.

A couple who is thinking about getting married in the Catholic Church should have several long, searching, honest, heart-to-heart conversations with each other and with God.

-Do we attend Sunday Mass each week?

-Are we part of a parish community and the local church through financial support and prayers of petition?

-Are we deepening our relationship with God by an active prayer life?

-Are we living chastely, refraining from sexual activity?

-Do we attend confession on a regular basis?

-If we are from different faiths, how will we practice our faiths?

-Is marriage being considered more for our parents' sake or for ours?

-Are there outside pressures to marry?

-Are there any addiction problems?

-Any difficulties with communication or a pattern of promiscuity? Are we hoping that marriage will change this?

-Have family or friends waved warning flags?

These are just some of the issues every couple should discuss as their thoughts turn to marriage. Sit down together, pray, go out to dinner – do whatever you can to talk seriously and honestly and fully about all of these issues. God created marriage to be a sign of His commitment to life and love. Now is the time to take God at His word and to give Him yours.

## ST. PETER PRE-CANA CLASS REGISTRATION

Return this form with payment at least one month before the first class date.

Classes fill quickly.

Today's date: \_\_\_\_\_

Fall 2018

### WEDDING INFORMATION

Wedding Date \_\_\_\_\_

Wedding Church \_\_\_\_\_

City/State \_\_\_\_\_

**REQUIRED: Local DC-area Priest or Deacon who is preparing you for Marriage and collecting your paperwork:**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Parish \_\_\_\_\_

**Groom** \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Religion \_\_\_\_\_

**Parish where you are registered**

**Bride** \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Religion \_\_\_\_\_

**Parish where you are registered**