



The information in box below summarizes *Preparing for Marriage: Guidelines for the Diocese of Baton Rouge*. Complete document available from your church parish or online. Please read.

(1) The couple must contact the parish priest or deacon at least six months prior to their tentative wedding date.

(2) The couple must register for and attend a pre-marriage preparation program led by married couples. The earlier this is done, the better. Approved programs include:

- Life Choice (Pre-Cana)
- Engaged Encounter Weekend
- Re-Marriage Preparation (Formerly Redeeming State)

Parish-based programs:

- Evenings for the Engaged,
- In-Home Marriage Preparation
- Sponsor Couples (Parish programs are available only in some parishes. Check with your parish as to availability.)

(3) The couple will take a premarital compatibility survey, such as the Pre-Marital Inventory (PMI), the FOCCUS test, or the PREPARE instrument. This highlights areas of personal and relational strength and weakness.

(4) During subsequent meetings with the priest, deacon, or official lay minister the couple reviews the basic doctrines of the Catholic Church regarding marriage.

(5) Weddings must be held in a church. In Catholic Churches, weddings (with or without Mass) are not scheduled from 3:00 pm on Saturdays and the vigils of holy days through midnight the following day.

2010 Marriage and Family Life Programs

LIFE CHOICE (pre-Cana)

Format: Large group program

Life Choice is a One Day pre-Cana program held on Saturdays from 9am – 4:30pm, at the *Catholic Life Center*. Combines talks with personal reflection and couple dialogue.

Cost: \$95 per Couple

**** (More information on back, including Registration Form, 2010 Life Choice Dates, and mailing address.****

ENGAGED ENCOUNTER (PRE-CANA - AN OVERNIGHT PROGRAM)

Format: A weekend retreat program where couples are free from the interruptions of Day-to-day life to concentrate on couple communications in preparation for marriage.

Dates: January 15-17 June 4-6
February 26-28 August 13-15
March 19-21 September 10-12
April 16-18 November 19-21

Cost: \$210 per couple. Make check payable to:
Catholic Engaged Encounter- mail to:
Catholic Engage Encounter
Linda and Eddie McClure
5368 Kennesaw
Baton Rouge, LA 70817
(225-337-2214 / www.ccebr.org)

RE-MARRIAGE PROGRAM

For More Information and Registration:
Mila Gernon, MFL Office – 225-242-0164

Cost: \$60- payable to Marriage & Family Life

NATURAL FAMILY PLANNING

Format: Helps couples identify the most opportune time to achieve or avoid pregnancy. Instruction in a group format with other couples once a month for three months, www.cclbatonrouge.org

OR through one-on-one teaching with a FertilityCare practitioner. Used for both family planning as well as management of infertility and other health issues. www.popepaulvi.com

MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER

Format: This program is designed to make a good marriage better. A weekend experience for reflection and sharing with your partner.

Dates: February 6-8 December 4-6
July 24-26
Location: BR Diocesan Retreat Center

Registration Fee: \$50
Information: 1-800-586-5469

RETRouvaille

Format: This program is designed to help troubled marriages. A specialized couple peer ministry weekend experience with six follow-up sessions. No couple is ever denied registration due to financial difficulties.

Dates: **BR: March 26-28 / October 8-10

Lafayette/Eunice: February 26-28 / August 27-29
BR/NO/Shriever: July 23-25

Location: **BR: Bishop Robert E. Tracy Center
Registration Fee: \$75

Registration: Errol and Mary Grace Lemoine
(225) 338-0380 or
1-800-470-2230
retro_batonrouge@yahoo.com
www.helpourmarriage.com

BEGINNING EXPERIENCE

Format: A peer ministry offering support to Separated, divorced, and widowed persons, concerning issues of loss. Payment arrangements are available based on need.

Dates: February 19-21
August 6-8

Location: Bishop Robert E. Tracy Center
Nonrefundable Deposit: \$60

Registration: Angela Falgoust – 225-278-7321
Beginning Experience
P.O. Box 14611
Baton Rouge, LA 70898

LIFE CHOICE (PRE-CANA) DAY PROGRAM

Note: Life Choice weekends fill up quickly. It is not unusual for couples to register several months in advance of their requested date. We ask that you give us two dates. If your 1st choice of dates is not available, we will use your 2nd choice of dates, automatically. Therefore, **PLEASE make a note of your date requests for your records.**

A letter of confirmation will be mailed or e-mailed to you about 2 weeks prior to your scheduled date.

***Please make every effort to attend on your confirmed date.**

*If you need further information call
Mila Gernon 225-242-0164 M-F- 9-4:30.*

2010 Life Choice Dates:

- January 9 June 19
- February 6 August 21
- March 27 September 25
- April 24 October 23
- May 22 November 20

**on Saturdays
9:00am - 4:30pm**

Cost: \$95 Couple

(We do not take registrations or reservations by telephone).

Mail check, payable to **Marriage and Family Life**. Send along with completed registration to:

Life Choice
Marriage & Family Life Office
P.O. Box 2028
Baton Rouge, LA 70821

Revised October 2009

**Life Choice
REGISTRATION FORM**

[VERY IMPORTANT: Please write/print legibly!]

Man's Name _____
Address _____

Phone (H) _____ (W) _____
Zip _____

(C) _____

E-mail _____

Age _____ DOB _____

Religion _____

Church Parish _____

Is this your first marriage? _____

If not, are you divorced or widowed? _____

How long? _____

Do you have children? _____

Number _____ Ages _____

Who do they reside with? _____

How long have you known each other? _____

***Life Choice**

CANCELLATION POLICY:

Refunds will be given only if confirmed date is cancelled no less than three weeks prior to weekend date.

Woman's Name _____
Address _____

Phone (H) _____ (W) _____
Zip _____

(C) _____

E-mail _____

Age _____ DOB _____

Religion _____

Church Parish _____

Is this your first marriage? _____

If not, are you divorced or widowed? _____

How long? _____

Do you have children? _____

Number _____ Ages _____

Who do they reside with? _____

How long have you known each other? _____

Tentative Wedding Date: _____

Officiating Priest's Name, Church parish & Tel.#: _____

List 1st & 2nd choice of dates to attend Life Choice

1st _____

2nd _____

Referred by: _____

Marriage Programs

*Before
During
and
After*

Diocese of Baton Rouge 2010

Office of Marriage & Family Life
Catholic Life Center
1800 South Acadian Thruway
P.O. Box 2028
Baton Rouge, LA 70821
(225) 242-0164 / 242-0323
(225) 336-8731/fax
mgernon@diobr.org

(Marriage & Family Life Programs Brochure)
Located online at: www.diobr.org/documents

MFL Office News Updates:
www.christianinformationbr.org