

Parental Consultation Form

CONFIDENTIALITY

Please be assured that your responses will be kept confidential. Your children will not be told any information that you shared with the priest (on this form). If there are any problems, the couple will be referred to the Diocesan Office of Marriage and Family for further evaluation. Confidentiality will extend to this process.

It is important that you feel comfortable to participate in the adequate preparation of your son's/daughter's marriage. You can only do so if you are free from fear of alienating your children.

**DIOCESE OF WORCESTER, MA
PARENTAL CONSULTATION FORM**



This form is to be completed individually under OATH with each parent or guardian of parties under twenty-one years of age, or, where there is doubt regarding the feasibility of a particular marriage: "I promise that in the answers that I am about to give, I will tell the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth, so help me God."

NOTE: *The priest or deacon should discuss with the parent the value of sharing in the decision-making process of their son/daughter and explain that this questionnaire is to obtain their evaluation regarding the readiness of their son/daughter to enter Christian marriage.*

INTRODUCTION:

It is recommended that the marriage preparation minister (priest or deacon) take sufficient time to explain the following to the parents of the couples who are preparing for marriage; i.e., parents must fully understand that stating their sincere and honest opinions regarding this couple who seek to be married in the Church is extremely *important*.

The Roman Catholic Diocese of Worcester places special emphasis on the task of adequately preparing engaged couples for the Sacrament of Marriage.

We, as Church, have a special responsibility to do everything possible to assist couples to deal effectively with the demands that marriage places on them.

Your participation in this process will contribute significantly to that end.

PARTIES TO BE MARRIED:

Name: _____ Date of Birth: _____

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1. Full name and address of parent completing form:

Relationship to party requesting to be married: _____

2. Your religion: _____

3. Length of Couple's courtship: _____

4. What advice did you give the couple?

5. Are you happy about the relationship of this couple? _____ Why or why not?

6. Have you noticed any hesitancy or doubt by either party to enter the permanent commitment of marriage? Explain.

7. Is this the first marriage for both parties? (If not, to whom was he/she married before?)

8. a) Is there any reason why the couple is scheduling marriage at this time? Why?

b) If pregnancy is alleged – what advice did you give the couple?

9. To your knowledge, has either party experienced any difficulties in the past which would present an obstacle to marital adjustment at this time? _____

____ Police Records	____ Psychological Problems and Treatment
____ School Problems	____ Use of Alcohol/Drugs
____ Family Discord	____ Other

If yes, explain:

10. Do you know any reason why your son/daughter should not enter this marriage? Explain.

11. Do you feel that they are entering this marriage freely and without undue pressure of fear from anyone or anything? Explain.

12. What type of preparation has this couple made for beginning their married life?

a) **Marriage Preparation Formation/Instruction Programs**

<u>PARISH/DIOCESAN PROGRAM:</u>	DATE COMPLETED	HAVE NOT YET PARTICIPATED	ANTICIPATED DATE OF COMPLETION
<i>FOCCUS premarital inventory</i> and subsequent discussion sessions with marriage preparation minister			
<i>God's Plan for a Joy-Filled Marriage seminar</i>			
<i>Engaged Encounter weekend</i>			
<i>Natural Family Planning (NFP) classes</i> <i>(referrals to certified instructors are available from the diocesan Office of Marriage and Family)</i>			

b) **Housing Plans:** (please describe)

c) **Education:** (level/degree completed or year in school, anticipated date of graduation, etc.)

d) **Finances:** (e.g., do they have adequate income and savings, etc.)

e) **Employment Stability:** (please describe)

13. Do you feel that they understand the following:

a) that the Christian commitment of marriage is a life-long union with another? *(please comment)*

b) that they know the religious obligations of marriage including the responsibilities of educating their children in the Catholic faith? *(please comment)*

c) that marriage requires a level of maturity? *(please comment)*

14. Do you fully approve of this marriage of your son/daughter? _____

Why or why not?

The priest making arrangements for the marriage should state below what he believes about the contemplated marriage; and his personal opinion about the parties in view of their maturity, their preparedness for marriage, and their faith journey and dispositions: