



# Utilizing Volunteers in Marriage Preparation

## Start here:

We want to involve married couples in marriage formation.

Invest in married couples first by holding a date night even or holy hour for married couples. Invite these couples to become involved in marriage ministry.

Implement Witness to Love. Volunteers become "showcase couples" for engaged couples who need mentor options, or the parish Pre-Cana team.

How many volunteers do you have? (If you have a small parish, partner with parishes nearby.)

0

Use Fully Engaged or Joined by Grace. Volunteers become mentor couples or part of the parish Pre-Cana team.

NO

Can couples select their own mentor couple? (RECOMMENDED)

YES

1

Have the couple trained as Prepare-Enrich facilitators.

2-3

Form a parish Pre-Cana team.

4+

Form a marriage formation team.

Do you have more than four weddings a year?

YES

Ask one couple to be the marriage prep coordinators; the others build a Pre-Cana team and a mentor program with diocesan support.

NO

Ask these four couples to serve as mentors.

Can couples select their own mentor couple? (RECOMMENDED)

YES

Implement Witness to Love; have one couple coordinate this program,

NO

Fully Engaged or Joined by Grace could be used.

The diocese can support you in building the team! You can also partner with a nearby parish with a venue or couples to add to the Pre-Cana team!

**Please don't hesitate to contact the Marriage and Family Life Office for consultation and support!**

**Here are some examples of how we can serve you and your volunteers with marriage preparation:**

- Answer questions about Form I
- Offer training in a Pre-Marital Inventory
- Train mentor couples or Witness to Love coordinators
- Onboard, train, and support Pre-Cana teams
- Diocese-parish Pre-Cana collaboration
- Create or re-design your parish marriage prep and wedding guidelines for couples
- Offer marriage enrichment opportunities to recruit volunteers for marriage preparation.