



**ROMAN CATHOLIC DIOCESE of ORANGE**

# *Communal Wedding*

The Diocese of Orange invites Catholic couples who are not sacramentally married to have their civil marriage validated by the Catholic Church in a communal wedding Mass with Most Reverend Timothy Freyer, D.D., Auxiliary Bishop of Orange. Preparation for the Sacrament of Marriage will be provided in English and in Spanish by the Diocesan Office for Family Life.



**02 MAY 2025**

FRIDAY 6 PM | CHRIST CATHEDRAL

**SPOTS ARE LIMITED. SIGN UP ASAP!**



Only couples who are registered parishioners in the Diocese of Orange are eligible for this communal wedding. Acknowledgement from the bride's pastor that the couple will be married by Bishop Freyer must be obtained as part of registration. Please see back side for further information about the requirements.

**For more information:**

[officeforfamilylife@rcbo.org](mailto:officeforfamilylife@rcbo.org)

714.282.4203

# Diocesan Preparation Process

1

Contact your local parish for an appointment to complete the Pre-Nuptial Investigation with your pastor, priest, or deacon.

3

Submit the required documents + registration form & fee (\$500 per couple) to the Office for Family Life for the Diocesan Civil Marriage Initiative formation program.

2

Obtain new copies of the baptismal certificates of both the bride and groom from the parishes where you were baptized.

## Required Documents

- Newly-issued Baptismal certificates
- Copy of certificates for Confirmation and First Holy Communion (if Catholic)
- Letters of Freedom to Marry (2)
- Pre-Nuptial Investigation
- Pastor acknowledgement form
- Copy of marriage certificate, if already civilly married
- Registration form for Diocesan Formation program

4

Prayerfully discern who you would like to ask to be your mentor couple, and ask them!

Mentor couples must be

- Sacramentally married for at least 5-10 years
- Not a member of either the bride or groom's family
- Active members of the same parish as the bride/groom
- A couple whose marriage you admire

Attend all meetings and fulfill all formation program requirements.

1. Kick-off: Monday, **October 21, 2024**
2. FOCCUS Pre-marital inventory
3. Group Coaching: **November 4, 6, or 8**  
– Mentor couples must also attend
4. Meet 3 times with your mentor couple - your parish priest or deacon will join you for Meeting #3
5. Couples retreat: **March 1, 2025** – Mentor couples must also attend
6. Rehearsal – TBD April 2024

5

May 2, 2025  
Nuptial Mass

6

Meet at least one more time with your mentor couple after the wedding.

7

**Important note: Due to our limited preparation timeline, we will only accept couples who have no prior marriages (in or outside of the Church). We are only able to accept couples who are married civilly (or cohabitating) with one and the same partner whom they will be marrying at this nuptial Mass.**