



*Our Lady of Pompeii | Sacred Heart of Jesus | St. Martha  
St. Mary of the Assumption | St. Mother Teresa of Calcutta | St. Philip the Apostle*

Dear Couples,

Welcome to *Before Cana*, the Marriage Preparation program of the Beloved Disciples of Christ the Lord Family of Parishes. We are looking forward to meeting each of you on **Saturday, February 24, 2024** in the Parish Center of the St. Mary's Elementary school building (located across the parking lot from St. Mary of the Assumption Church, Lancaster).

The day begins with registration at **9:30 a.m.** and continues until **5:30 p.m.** Mass at one of our family parishes will conclude the day, which satisfies your Sunday obligation. Our team endeavors to make it a very worthwhile day for you.

Lunch will be included, but we ask that you kindly bring a snack to be shared with the rest of the group, so that food is available throughout the day. If you have any questions or special dietary needs, please let us know in advance by calling St. Mary's rectory at 716-683-6445 or email at [smc@stmarysonthehill.org](mailto:smc@stmarysonthehill.org). If you have not done so already, please mail your payment of \$90, which covers the cost of booklets, handouts and lunch.

At the end of the day, each couple will receive a certificate to be presented to the priest officiating your wedding, testifying that they have participated in the required premarital preparation.

This program is a rare occasion for you to shut out the distractions of the world and focus on your relationship. Please restrict other commitments for this day, as you will be required to complete the **full program** in order to receive your certificate. It is said that "The wedding is a day, but the marriage is a lifetime," so please concentrate your attention and give each other the gift of time on this day.

Please dress comfortably, but keep in mind that you will be attending Mass at the end of the day. We **STRONGLY** advise you to dress in layers, as the temperature of the building varies greatly from time to time, and we will have little control over the thermostat.

Love in Christ,  
Deacon John and Barbara Owczarczak  
and the entire Before Cana Team