

THINGS THAT MAY INFLUENCE THE DATE OF WHEN YOU WILL COME INTO FULL COMMUNION WITH THE CATHOLIC CHURCH

#1 YOUR OWN DISCERNMENT

There is absolutely no pressure for you on your journey. Through praying and the Holy Spirit prompting and moving your heart, you will move at a pace that works for you on this journey.

#2 MARRIAGE IMPEDIMENTS

There are two types of marriage impediments:

1. ANNULMENTS

As a Catholic, we are required to be married in the Church.

The Catholic Church teaches that a marriage cannot be initiated while a previous marriage still exists. An annulment is a declaration by the Church that a civil or church marriage which was thought to be valid was not legally binding. This might be because of some defect in the consent given on the day of the wedding, or possibly a defect in the capacity of one of the parties.

When an annulment is granted, the Church is not saying that there never was a marriage, but that the bond between the two parties was invalid.

If you are currently married and you and/or your spouse has previously been married, an annulment will be needed before you can come into the Church.

If you are not currently married but you have previously been married, you may need an annulment before you can come into the Church.

2. CONVALIDATIONS

A Catholic is required by canon law to be married in the Church.

If you or your spouse is Catholic and you were not married in the Catholic Church, you will need to get your marriage convalidated.

If you are preparing to become Catholic and your spouse is not Catholic, you may need to convalidate your marriage.

Any annulments must be completed before your marriage can be convalidated.

**IF NEEDED, THE DIRECTOR OF FAITH FORMATION WILL REACH OUT TO
YOU INDIVIDUALLY TO DISCUSS MARRIAGE IMEPIMENTS FURTHER.**