

Marriage

The matrimonial covenant, by which a man and a woman establish between themselves a partnership of the whole of life and which is ordered by its nature to the good of the spouses and the procreation and education of offspring, has been raised by Christ the Lord to the dignity of a sacrament between the baptized. (Code of Canon Law n. 1055)

What do you need to get married in the Catholic Church?

Congratulations! We are happy to be part of this special event in your life.

Please contact the priest of the Parish you are going to celebrate your wedding to discuss your situation and set the date in the parish calendar. Do it at least four months prior to the day you are planning to get married.

Preparation

All couples will complete a FOCCUS questionnaire and an Engaged Encounter Weekend. The priest will provide locations and dates of these programs. You will be paired with a mentor couple. "Only Love Can Make it Easy" will be covered in 4 meetings. Followed by a final meeting with the priest.

Confessions are at 3:30 p.m.

Wedding location

The proper place for a wedding is in the church. A priest celebrate a wedding in a park, home or backyard, etc.

Wedding date and time

Marriages are ordinarily scheduled on Saturdays no later than 1:00 p.m. to allow you time for the pictures after the ceremony. If an evening wedding is preferred, it may be scheduled for Friday evening no later than 7:00 p.m. No weddings during Holy Week.

Wedding coordinator

Saint Andrew's Parish has wedding coordinators available to assist you with your wedding. It is highly encouraged that you utilize their assistance. Their experience will provide valuable support as you plan your wedding. Please contact her, no later than a month before your wedding date.

Wedding music

If you wish to have the parish choir play for your wedding, please contact them to make music arrangements.

Barbara Pickett, organ/piano

(509) 962-3639

Aaron Hirsh organ/piano/vocalist

(507) 766-0857

Wedding photography

You are allowed to take pictures before, during or after the ceremony. If you decide to take them after the ceremony, you have up to 50 minutes. If the wedding party does not demonstrate respect for the church as a holy place during the photography session, they will be asked to leave the church.

On Saturdays, it is necessary that everyone and their belongings be out of the church and the church cleaned up by 3:10 p.m.

Flowers and decorations

Our church floral consultant, Diane Dier, can purchase and arrange your church flowers for a fee of \$70 she is able to get flowers at a very reasonable price. You can contact her at 962-9320. If you don't want this service, we recommend you bring at list 2 buckets of natural flowers.

Rice, flowers, etc.

It is not permitted to throw rice, birdseed, confetti, or anything else anywhere in, around, or on the church property. It is not permitted to have a flower girl spread real flower petals on the carpet inside the church. You may use silk flower petals instead.

Planning your wedding

We prefer our Ministers of Holy Communion serve during the Mass, but you are welcome to invite someone from your family that is willing to do it.

The seating of the couple can be either just in front of the altar, on one side or in the front pew.

Unless the couple requests some other arrangement; they will be standing in front of the altar facing each other, during the exchange of vows.

The church requires only two witnesses besides the bride and groom and the priest. You are free to have an inexpensive, simple, small wedding if that is your wish.

Seasonal decorations in the church for Advent, Christmas, Easter, Pentecost, etc., are not to be moved.

Sacrament of Reconciliation is on Saturdays at 3:30 pm

Note:

Our facilities are handicapped accessible.

What you need to bring during the process

- Baptism certificate of each one
- Two witnesses that have known you for a long time to sign a paper during the preparation.
- If you are married civilly, bring a copy of your wedding certificate.
- Two weeks prior to the wedding, please remember to bring your complete Marriage License packet, and completed Wedding Coordinator form to the parish office along with the planning form for the priest.

Fees

\$225.00 Church stipend if you are a parishioner

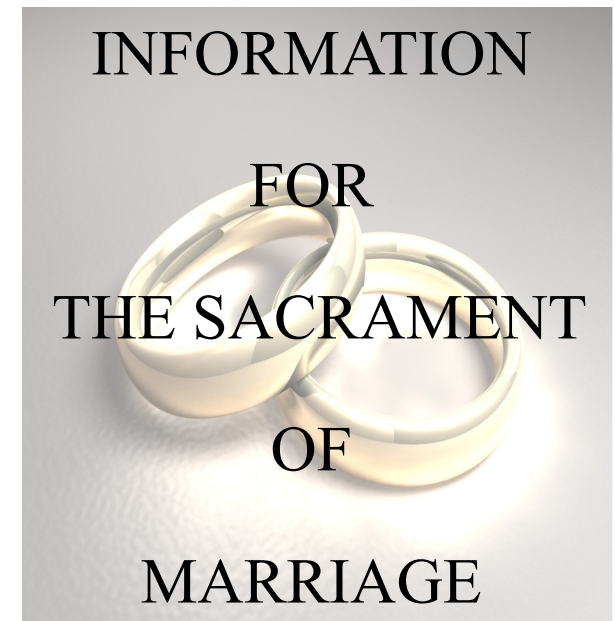
\$100.00 Wedding Coordinator fee

Please do not drink alcohol before the wedding ceremony.

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