

Preparation

- The process should begin 6 months before the proposed wedding date. If you have been married before, you need to consult with the priest regarding the wedding date.
- Sacramental preparation usually entails four appointments:
 1. Introductory meeting with priest to discuss sacrament and complete pre-nuptial questionnaire. This takes place **before** couples attend a Pre-Cana Marriage Preparation Conference.
 2. One day Pre-Cana Program. Please remember to return the card you receive to the priest assisting you with preparation. Ask for a Pre-Cana folder.
 3. Meeting with Priest to discuss Pre-Cana experience
 4. Meeting with priest to plan wedding liturgy
- Couples are asked to present recent copies of Baptismal and Confirmation certificates within six months of the wedding date. A Pre-marital questionnaire and affidavits will also be completed with the priest.

Costs

- **Active parishioners and registered parishioners living within parish boundaries: \$600.00**
- **Non-parishioners: \$1,200.00**

A \$250.00 Non-refundable deposit is due on the date of scheduling. The deposit will be subtracted from the total amount due.

- **Musician Fees: \$350.00**
This fee includes the parish keyboard player and cantor, plus one consultation to plan the ceremony. Additional singers/instrumentalists, music rehearsals, consultations and set up coordination of musicians are available at an additional expense. These must be coordinated through the parish music director.
- **Wedding Coordinator: \$150**

Scheduling

- Weddings should be scheduled with the priest at least six months prior to the day you wish to be married. You may schedule more than six months before the date.
- Weddings may be scheduled on any day of the week except Sundays. If the wedding is scheduled for a Saturday afternoon, it must be early enough to finish before 5 PM.

- Rehearsals generally occur during the week before your ceremony. These are also to be arranged with your priest.
- Weddings that occur during the seasons of Advent and Lent must reflect the reserved nature of these seasons in their celebration in decorations and music.
- As a courtesy to all those involved in your celebration and those celebrations to follow, please ensure that everyone arrives on time.

Music

- A consultation to plan the musical details of the ceremony should be scheduled with Dan Lagacy, the Director of Music, as soon as the couple is prepared.
- This consultation should be scheduled at least a month before the wedding date. If there are special considerations for music, the meeting should be scheduled further in advance of the date.
- Music is generally encouraged for these sacramental celebrations, and the music fees cover an organist/pianist and cantor (song leader). The parish music director is responsible for coordinating and approving these persons as well as other instrumentalists or singers. Additional rehearsals, consultations, instrumentalists, singers, are all available at an additional expense.
- Because this is a religious and sacramental celebration, only sacred music is acceptable and appropriate.

What to tell the florist...

- Your florist may arrive to decorate 60 minutes prior to the ceremony.
- The church is a beautiful example of Gothic architecture and live flowers are especially fitting for your celebration. Simple floral arrangements are welcome and should be in keeping with the seasonal decorations and architecture of the church. No arches are permitted.
- If you wish to have bows or flowers on the benches, please secure them with rubber bands or strings. Tape or other adhesives and tacks are not allowed because of the damage they cause to the wood.
- If you have a runner, the aisle is 95 feet in length from the sanctuary step to the baptismal font. It should be secured with a floor-friendly tape or adhesive. Please make arrangements for removing a runner after the ceremony. Please refrain from decorations that involve pedestals or other objects standing in the center aisle.
- Throwing of rice, birdseed or confetti is not permitted. If you choose to have rose petals during the procession, please ensure that someone will be responsible for clean-up afterwards. There is an extra

cleaning charge of \$25 per hour for petals that are not removed.

- Mementos of the wedding are to be distributed outside as people are exiting the church.

What to tell the photographer/ videographer...

- Photos and videos of your ceremony are welcome to be taken only by those who will understand and respect a Catholic liturgy. They must be professional enough to be unobtrusive and discreet.
- Because of the solemn nature of this celebration, no one with cameras is permitted to enter the sanctuary (go up the steps onto the altar), go in front of the benches, or down the main aisle.
- Please ask your photographer to refrain from using extra lights, due to the heat and discomfort they provide to the bridal party and the assembly.
- After the ceremony, a period of 20-30 minutes is allowed for group pictures. Please respect this amount of time so other celebrations following yours may set up and begin on time.