

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 parish office at least 4 months prior to the date of the wedding. After the first meeting you will be able to book the wedding date with a deposit payment.

Preparation

All couples complete a compatibility test FOCCUS and take pre marriage classes. The priest will provide locations and dates for both.

Wedding location

The proper place for a wedding is in the church. A priest cannot preside at a wedding in a park, home or backyard, etc.

Wedding date and time

Marriages are ordinarily scheduled on Saturdays at 11:00 am and 2:00 pm to allow you time for the pictures after the ceremony. If a Friday wedding is preferred, it may be scheduled no later than 2:00 pm. No weddings during Holy Week.

Wedding coordinator

St. Joseph has wedding coordinators available to assist you with your wedding. Their experience will provide valuable support at your rehearsal and wedding. The rehearsal usually takes place a few days before the wedding.

Wedding music

We do not allow the playing of pre-recorded music (CD's) during the Mass. It is recommended that you arrange the music for your wedding with a choir.

Susan Miller, Choir Director 509-586-3820
Manuel Mendoza 509-430-0097
José Miramontes 509-440-0579
Ramiro Panduro 509-845-5068

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 30 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 3:30 p.m.

Rice, flowers, etc.

The church can be decorated an hour before the celebration, as long as time allows it. Check with the parish office for availability.

- No tape of any kind are allowed on any of the church furniture.
- The flower arrangements should not obstruct the way, the view of the of the altar, the celebrant, or congregation.
- 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. All petals need to be picked up after the celebration has concluded.

Planning your wedding

The priest or the parish office will give you a book “Together for life” so you can choose the readings and pick someone to read them.

Choosing scripture readings

Liturgy of the word generally consist of:

1. First reading—Old Testament
2. Responsorial Psalm
3. Second reading—New Testament
4. Gospel reading—New Testament

The bride and groom will be standing in front of the altar facing each other, during the exchange of vows. During the ceremony they will be seated in chairs or in the front pew and a kneeler will be provided.

Our facilities are handicapped accessible.

Reconciliation

So both of you can participate in the Eucharist, receiving communion as husband and wife we recommend you seek confession a week before the wedding. Confessions take place every Saturday from 4:00-5:00 pm in the new church.

This brochure is a summary of the guidelines for weddings. Please request a copy of the complete guide at the parish office.

What you need to bring during the process

- Recent Baptism certificates with notations.
- 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. (The civil marriage takes place the same day as the religious wedding).

Stipends/fees

- \$250 parishioners
- \$450 non parishioners
- \$100 Priest stipend
- \$100 Coordinator stipend

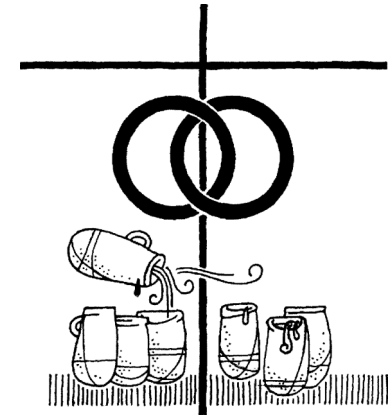
Music

If you wish to have music at your celebration, contact a choir.

Alcohol Policy

Please do not consume alcohol before the wedding ceremony.

INFORMATION FOR THE SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE



St. Joseph Parish

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