

Marriage at Saint John Vianney Church

Who may be married at St. John Vianney?

All parishioners, adult children of parishioners, and other Catholics who have reason to wish to be married here are welcome to celebrate their marriage at St. John Vianney – provided they are free to marry in the Catholic Church.

How do I schedule a date for my wedding?

Please contact the parish office and complete an Application for Marriage – either in person or over the phone. This will give us some basic information. A priest (or deacon) will be in touch with you within a day or so to arrange a first meeting with you and begin the process.

Weddings may ordinarily be scheduled on Saturdays no earlier than 11 AM and no later than 2 PM. Weddings may be scheduled on Friday afternoons or evenings (except the Fridays of Lent, due to Stations of the Cross). Weddings may not be scheduled on Holy Saturday, Good Friday, or certain Holy Days.

Please note that, while the parish secretary can tell you that a specific date is open in the parish calendar, it is not set until we can be sure that one of the priests or deacons is likewise available for the wedding. Once your date is set in the parish calendar, the secretary will mail you a letter confirming the date and time. Please call her immediately if there are any errors!

How do I arrange for music at my wedding?

It is essential that you contact Jamie Frame, our Director of Sacred Music, as soon as possible. He is responsible for helping you plan appropriate music for your wedding ceremony. Jamie can be contacted thru the parish office. The fee for music is paid directly to Jamie, and is currently \$300. If there is any financial difficulty in covering this, please let us know. This fee should be brought to the office at least 4 days prior to the wedding, along with your marriage license.

Are photography and/or videotaping permitted?

It is permissible for people to take photographs and/or video at your wedding. We ask any professionals to kindly speak with the priest or deacon prior to the ceremony (20 – 15 minutes ahead is fine) so that they are 'on the same page'. It is also permissible to take some posed pictures in the Church following the ceremony, if time permits. Please try to maintain a reverent atmosphere in the Church when doing so.

Is it OK to throw rice, etc?

It is certainly OK for your guests to throw rice following your ceremony – as long as they do it OUTSIDE the Church. Indeed, rice is preferable to bird seed, which often causes other problems.

Other Important things to Know:

- As with any Sacrament, some preparation is required prior to your wedding. The priest or deacon handling your wedding will explain this to you. Our parish secretary can put you in touch with our parish Pre – Cana Team who will be happy to assist you in this matter. You should check the Diocesan website (diometuchen.org) to sign up for God's Plan for Marriage, which compliments the Pre – Cana program.

You will also have to meet with the priest or deacon to complete some paperwork and other details. He will ask you for certain documents – especially a Baptismal Certificate – during the process. Stay in close touch with the priest or deacon who will be marrying you to ensure that the process is moving along as it should.

- You will need to obtain a marriage license. Call Town Hall for details at least one month prior to your wedding. Please bring your marriage license to the Parish Office at least 4 days before your wedding.
- There is no fee or required offering to be married at St. John Vianney Church. As was earlier stated, you are obliged to pay for the musicians. If you wish to make a gift to the Church at the time of your wedding, that is certainly OK.
- Speak to the priest or deacon about scheduling a wedding rehearsal. These usually occur the evening before the wedding.
- You should be sure to make a good Confession prior to your wedding, so that you begin this new chapter in your life with a clean soul.
- Ask the priest or deacon working with you about any options you may wish to include in your ceremony. These would include choosing the Bible readings and certain other options. In this – and the music – please remember that your wedding day will include two parts: spiritual and social. Secular hymns and customs are not appropriate to the spiritual part of your celebration, any more than hymns and prayers would be to the social part.
- Know that we are here to help you as you prepare for your wedding day.