

Wedding Registration Form
Church of St. Albert
11400 57th Street NE; Box 127
Albertville, MN 55301
(763) 497-2474

Congratulations on your engagement! Please complete and return this completed form to the parish office at the above address if you would like to request your wedding at the Church of St. Albert. The bride/groom or their families **must** be registered members of the parish to receive the Sacrament of Marriage in our church. A minimum of 9 months is required for marriage preparation. Marriage preparation must be completed a minimum of 3 months prior to the wedding ceremony as required by the Archdiocese of St. Paul/Minneapolis. Inter-faith weddings are typically assigned to a Deacon.

Wedding date will not be guaranteed until celebrant has confirmed date and reservation fee is received.

Standard wedding ceremony times: Fridays: 4:00 or 5:00pm; Saturdays: Between 11:00am and 1:00pm
 Rehearsals are typically scheduled the night prior to the wedding ceremony at 5pm.

Fees: \$150 Wedding Fee due with the Wedding Registration Form
 \$100 Wedding Coordinator Fee due one month before Wedding
 Music Fee is handled separately and should be arranged with Music Coordinator, Alexis Barthel.

Name of parish member:		
*After the wedding date, you must register as a couple to be listed as a member of the parish.		
Wedding Date Requested:	Time of Ceremony:	Rehearsal Date/Time:
Other Requests:		
Are you and your fiancée currently living together or planning to live together prior to your wedding date? YES / NO		

BRIDE

Full Name:		Email Address:	
Address:		City/State/Zip	
Home Phone:	Cell Phone:	Work:	
Religion:	Parish name and location:		
Have you received the Sacrament of Confirmation in the Catholic Church?			Yes / No
Previous Marriage:	If yes, has annulment been granted?	If not, is it in the process?	

GROOM

Full Name:		Email Address:	
Address:		City/State/Zip	
Home Phone:	Cell Phone:	Work:	
Religion:	Parish name and location:		
Have you received the Sacrament of Confirmation in the Catholic Church?			Yes / No
Previous Marriage:	If yes, has annulment been granted?	If not, is it in the process?	

Previous Marriage:

If either of the engaged persons have been married previously, notification of a final declaration of nullity must be in hand in order to attest that there is not an impediment to a future marriage. Because of the variables regarding the time it takes actually to complete a case, **no future marriage may be scheduled in any Catholic Parish until the annulment procedure is completed.** While awaiting the outcome of the Tribunal’s actions, couples are advised to deepen their lives of faith and their relationship with Jesus Christ.

Cohabiting prior to Marriage:

Prior to marriage, it is not appropriate to live together. Sexual intercourse, as a beautiful and sacred gift from God, is intended for marriage. Outside the context of a committed sacramental union, it is sinful. Living together before marriage is also scandalous, which means it could cause another to fall into sin, by following your example. It is extremely important that the couple find a way of returning to living a single life style until their wedding day. You will be asked to maintain separate residence for a period of six months prior to your wedding.

*Couples are reminded that **Sunday Mass, sharing prayer** with each other, and celebrating the **Sacrament of Reconciliation** are powerful in having a blessed marriage.*

As you prepare yourselves for Christian marriage, may you be strengthened by God’s blessings, grow in respect for one another, and cherish each other with a sincere love in the name of Jesus Christ, Our Lord.

May this time of preparation, as well as the wedding itself, be an experience of love, prayer, and holiness for both of you.

Please know that you, as an engaged couple of our parish, are remembered in the prayers of the parishioners and staff of the Church of St. Albert. Best Wishes and may God Bless You!

We have read the Wedding Registration/ Marriage Preparation contract and we agree to abide by its policies including completing all marriage preparation steps as presented.

We understand that our next step is to contact the celebrant assigned to schedule the first marriage preparation meeting, and this must be done within the next 30 days.

Signature of Prospective Bride _____
Date

Signature of Prospective Groom _____
Date

Other comments:

Office Use Only

Date Form Received			Date entered on parish calendar and by whom	
Fees Received			Date confirmed with couple and by whom (staff)	
Celebrant Assigned			Date registration form/file given to celebrant	
Date Confirmed with Celebrant			Mentor couple assigned (when determined)	

COUPLE TO KEEP THIS PAGE FOR FUTURE REFERENCE

MARRIAGE PREPARATION:

- ❑ **Meet with clergy:** Several sessions of approximately one hour each with the parish priest or deacon scheduled to preside at the wedding. Sessions will include the Roman Catholic understanding of the sacrament of Marriage, the planning of the wedding ceremony, and any other areas as determined by the priest, deacon or the couple themselves. **The engaged couple is responsible for taking the initiative to call and schedule the meetings.*

Contact Information:

Pastor: Fr. Joseph Zabinski, 763-497-2474 frzabinski@churchofstalbert.org

Deacon: Paul Ravnikar, 763-560-5920 deaconpravnikar@gmail.com

Parish Office: 763-497-2474

** The celebrant is subject to change.*

*** If it is determined either by you, or by our clergy, that you need to post-pone or cancel your wedding ceremony, or if you fail to complete the marriage preparation requirements, the reservation for using the church space will automatically be cancelled.*

- ❑ **Take the FULLY ENGAGED Pre-Marriage Inventory** - A pre-marital inventory administered by the parish priest/deacon. This is NOT a test, but only a tool to discuss pertinent topics.
- ❑ **Mentor Couple Meetings** - Several meetings to discuss the results of your FULLY ENGAGED pre-marital inventory. This is a very important part of the preparation for the Sacrament and the engaged couples need to be flexible and available to meet with their mentor couples. This must be a priority for the engaged couple as it is a requirement. The mentor couple will contact the engaged couple to set up the first meeting.
- ❑ **Attend an approved Saint Paul and Minneapolis archdiocese Engaged Retreat.**
A retreat will help prepare couples on subjects such as spirituality, sexuality, communication, inter-faith issues, and finances. Couples may sign up for a retreat at any time; they do not have to wait until they have secured a wedding date. **“Living God’s Love”** is a weekend retreat sponsored by the Archdiocese of Saint Paul and Minneapolis. To register, call 651-291-4553. You may also ask Father or Deacon for a list of other approved engaged retreat options.
- ❑ **Attend the God’s Plan for a Joy-Filled Marriage** - one day local retreat. This is in addition to the marriage preparation retreat listed above. This retreat will be offered 3 to 4 days (always on Saturday) each year. It’s the couple’s responsibility to attend one of the retreats PRIOR to their wedding date. It is recommended you attend as soon as you are engaged. You will receive a certificate of completion. There is a \$50 fee for this retreat. For registration info, please contact the parish office at: 763-497-2474, . Ext 1 or email jwelter@churchofstalbert.org for dates and further details.
- ❑ **Attend Natural Family Planning (NFP) classes:** Artificial birth control is not an option for Catholics. Natural Family Planning offers a scientific, moral, and healthy means to delay or achieve pregnancy. Some medical insurance programs do cover these classes. Couples may sign up for these classes at any time; they do not have to wait until they have secured a wedding date. To receive a listing of current NFP classes or for more information, please contact the Office for Family, Laity, Youth and Young Adults at 651-291-4489 or visit their website www.archspm.org/family.

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DOCUMENT CHECKLIST FOR COUPLES:

Couples marrying at the Church of St. Albert are required to have the following documentation on file with the Priest/Deacon at least three months prior to their wedding date:

Baptismal Certificate:

Catholics: You must contact your parish of baptism to obtain a **recent copy** of your baptismal certificate. **The copy must be issued within the last 6 months.** If you were baptized at our church, please contact the parish office directly and request a printed copy of your baptismal certificate and that she gives it directly to the clergy (priest or deacon) you are working with. They will need to know your date of birth and approximate (month/year) of your baptism. Other Christian faiths: You may provide any copy of your baptismal certificate.

Certificate of Completion from a Marriage Preparation Retreat with the Archdiocese.

Certificate of Completion from God's Plan for a Joy Filled Marriage Retreat, which is provided locally.

Marriage license (Please keep this until your wedding rehearsal)

You must obtain a marriage license valid in the state of Minnesota. You may apply for a marriage license at any county office in Minnesota. Along with payment for the license, you must have proof of citizenship; a drivers license is sufficient. No blood tests are required in Minnesota. There is a 5 to 10 day waiting period after applying for the license. The marriage license is valid for a period of 6 months from the date of issuance. **The state of Minnesota gives a reduced [Marriage License] fee to couples who have completed 12 hours of pre-marriage counseling. You can obtain the *Reduced Fee for your Civil License form from the priest or deacon, you are working with.***

Pre-nuptial Questionnaire (Form 1)

This document establishes the freedom and willingness of the parties to celebrate the Sacrament of Matrimony. It is filled out by the priest or deacon with the bride and groom and signed by them.

Affidavit (Form 2)

An affidavit may be required testifying to the freedom to marry, this would need to be signed by a parent or other close relative, in the presence of priest or deacon.

Dispensation

A dispensation (permission) will be requested by the priest or deacon from the Archbishop for the following cases:

- *An inter-faith marriage to be held in a Catholic Church
- *An inter-faith marriage to be held in the church of the party who is not Catholic.
- *When there is a previous marriage.

Other documents

May be required depending on the status of the parties. The priest/deacon will inform couples if any additional documents are required.

After your wedding day:

Parish Registration:

Please remember to register as a couple at your parish so that you can live out the responsibilities of your united commitment to God as an enrolled couple of that parish community. Even if you are remaining members of the Church of St. Albert, you must still register with us as a couple/family. This is not automatically processed.

In our society, one out of every two marriages end in a divorce. However, for couples who attend church weekly together, the percentage is much less. Keep your marriage together with God's help, by keeping God in the center of your lives and an important part of your relationship.