



# St. Clement of Rome

Forming Faith. Enhancing Ministries. Strengthening Community

## Wedding Guidelines

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# *Congratulations!*

Congratulations on your engagement! We are honored that you have chosen St. Clement of Rome to be the sacred place where you will ask God to bless and perfect your love for each other in the Sacrament of Marriage. Both the Priest and Wedding Coordinator are privileged to assist you as you prepare for this most special day! Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions - I am here for you! May God bless you abundantly during this special time of preparation.

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Father Joe Krafft, [pastor@scrparish.org](mailto:pastor@scrparish.org)

# *Marriage in the Catholic Church*

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 1055).

The Sacrament of Marriage established a covenant relationship of Life and Love between the spouses and God. They reflect Jesus to each other and to the community of Faith. Therefore, our Church requires special preparation for engaged couples who wish to marry in St. Clement of Rome.

We at St. Clement of Rome participate in the Archdiocesan Marriage program. We request reservations of the church at least 9 months before marriage. You should not mail your wedding invitations until you have completed your marriage preparation program with the priest/deacon. Normally you will visit him three times.

# Statement of Marriage Policies

**St. Clement of Rome Parish's Wedding Guidelines are in line with the liturgical norms of the Archdiocese of New Orleans. The following is our Marriage Preparation Policy.**

- Preparations with the priest or deacon for the marriage should begin no less than three to twelve months before the wedding.
- Once the date has been confirmed with the Priest and if the Church is available on that same date, the date will be penned in. If the Priest has not confirmed the date will be penciled in.
- **The marriage preparation program will consist of**
  - Finalizing Date with priest, and wedding coordinator
    - Ceremonies can be held on Friday 6-8pm or Saturday 11am-1:30pm, and 6:30pm-8:30pm
  - A contribution of \$350 for parishioners and \$550 for non-parishioners is requested as our church donation. We ask that you make a \$100 deposit at the time of reserving the church. The balance must be paid by the night of the rehearsal and this fee includes the church, wedding coordinator, and marriage preparation. An additional stipend for the priest/deacon officiating the wedding is also appropriate.
  - Discussion and completion of a premarital inventory (FOCCUS)
  - Participating in an Archdiocesan approved marriage preparation program such as Archdiocesan days for the Engaged, Parish Based Mentor Couple Program and Catholic Engaged Encounter. For further information, please refer to the Archdiocesan website [nolacatholic.org/getting-married-1](http://nolacatholic.org/getting-married-1)
  - A meeting with the wedding coordinator to verify the wedding ceremony to review readings, prayer options, wedding party information, etc.
  - Wedding Rehearsal
    - Wedding rehearsals will be held either the Wednesday, Thursday or Friday before the wedding. Times for rehearsals are as follows: Wednesdays at 6:00 p.m. or 7:00 p.m., and Thursdays at 6:00 p.m. or 7:00 p.m. Rehearsal times can be adjusted according to our Church calendar of events. Rehearsals will run approximately one hour.
- Must have all wedding preparation completed no less than 2 months before the wedding.

**If officiant (priest/deacon) is from another parish or diocese:**

- All marriage paperwork must be completed and returned to St. Clement of Rome parish office at least one month prior to the wedding.
- The officiant must request delegation from the pastor to validly officiate.
- If from another diocese, officiant must provide a letter of good standing.

## *Wedding Music Guidelines*

- Only sacred music is permitted during a church wedding.
- Louis Hackett, St. Clement of Rome's Music Director is available for weddings and should be contacted at least six months in advance at [musicdirector@scrparish.org](mailto:musicdirector@scrparish.org) or 504-887-7821.
  - Payment will be discussed with Our Music Director, Louis Hackett
- You may also bring in your own vocalists and/or musicians.
  - We ask that you please contact Louis Hackett, to inform him that you plan to have your own musicians.
- Please refer to the Music Guide for Catholic Weddings to choose your music for the ceremony
- Fill out Page 9 with your music choices and return to Louis Hackett, at least a month and a half prior to your Wedding Day.

## MUSIC SELECTION GUIDE FOR CATHOLIC WEDDINGS

### Seating of the Mothers and Grandmothers:

- Air on the G String (Bach)
- Air (from Water Music Suite) (Handel)
- Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring (Bach)
- Canon in D (Pachelbel)
- Nun bitten wir (Buxtehude)
- Larghetto (Handel)
- Prelude in C from The Well-Tempered Clavier (Bach)

### Bridal Party:

- Air on the G String (Bach)
- Air (from Water Music Suite) (Handel)
- Bist Du Bei Mir (J.S. Bach)
- Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring (Bach)
- Canon in D (Pachelbel)
- Nun bitten wir (Buxtehude)
- Larghetto (Handel)
- Prelude in C from The Well-Tempered Clavier (Bach)
- Largo (E. Elgar)
- Ave Verum Corpus W. A. Mozart
- Panis Angelicus (C. Franck)
- Berceuse (G. Faure)
- Ave Maria (J.S. Bach)
- Ave Maria (F. Schubert)

### Bridal Procession:

- Wedding March (F. Mendelssohn)
- The Rejoicing (G.F. Handel)
- Prince of Denmark's March (J. Clarke)
- Trumpet Tune (H. Purcell)
- Trumpet Tune (J. Stanley)
- The Hornpipe (G.F. Handel)
- St. Anthony's Chorale (F.J. Haydn)

If you would like a different processional hymn, please reach out to Louis.

**Responsorial Psalm:** (Please email Louis your selection, from the Together for Life book, or song below):

- Taste and See (Haugen), Psalm 34
- Taste and See (Guimont), Psalm 34
- Taste and See (Moore), Psalm 34
- As the Deer Longs (Psalm 42-43)
- The Lord is Kind and Merciful (Cotter), Psalm 103
- The Lord is King and Merciful (Ant II), Psalm 103
- Blessed are those Who Fear the Lord, Psalm 128
- Blest are Those Who Love You, Psalm 128
- Lord, I Thank You, Psalm 138

**Gospel Acclamation:** We use the Celtic Alleluia (O'Carroll) or Fr. James Chepponis's Festival Alleluia for weddings in our parish, unless during Lent.

**Homily**

**Statement of Intentions**

**Exchange of Consent with Acclamation:** Celtic or Festival Alleluia (refrain sung once only)

**Presentation and Preparation of the Gifts ("Offertory"):**

- Clair De Lune (C. Debussy)
- Arabesque no.1 (C. Debussy)
- Gymnopedie no.1 (E. Satie)
- Prelude in C (J.S. Bach)
- Raindrop Prelude (F. Chopin)
- The River flows in you (C. Peri)
- Allemande Suite No. 5 (J.S. Bach)
- A Thousand Years (C. Peri)
- Bridal Prayer (Copeland)
- I want to Walk as a (RS 693)
- Steal Away to Jesus (RS 959)
- What Wondrous Love is This (RS 807)

**Communion:** Any other appropriate Eucharistic-themed hymn (see Offertory section)

- Panis Angelicus (Franck)
- I Come with Joy to Meet My Lord
- I Received the Living God
- Gift of Finest Wheat
- I Am the Bread of Life

- Let the Hungry Come to Me
- One Bread, One Body
- Taste and See RS 806
- Love Divine all Loves Excelling RS 806
- Not for Tongues of Heaven's Angels RS 815

**Presentation of Flowers to the Blessed Virgin Mother:**

- Ave Maria (Schubert)
- Ave Maria (Bach)
- Ave Maria (Caccini)
- Ave Verum Corpus (W.A Mozart)
- Panis Angelicus (C. Franck)
- How Beautiful (T. Paris)
- Bridal Prayer (Copeland)

### WEDDING MUSIC SELECTION FORM

Bride \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_ Time \_\_\_\_\_

How many Bridesmaids \_\_\_\_\_

⊕ Prelude music, and Gathering Song. ⊕ \_\_\_\_\_

Bridal Party Entrance \_\_\_\_\_

Bridal Procession \_\_\_\_\_

Gloria (obligatory for Nuptial Masses)

Responsorial Psalm \_\_\_\_\_

Gospel Acclamation: Festival Alleluia Presentation

Preparation of the Gifts/ Offertory \_\_\_\_\_

Eucharistic Responses from the revised Mass of Creation, including the Sanctus, Mysterium Fidei, Amen, and Agnus Dei.

Communion \_\_\_\_\_

Flowers to BVM after final Blessing \_\_\_\_\_

Recessional \_\_\_\_\_

Other musicians \_\_\_\_\_

## *Florists and Photography Guidelines*

1. No runners are allowed down the aisle or outside the Church
2. Please keep in mind that the altar is a sacred place in our church, and should not be used as a worktable, nor should anything be placed on it.
3. No candles are allowed except those used by the church
4. All florist decorations and props must be removed from the church at the end of the wedding with the exception of two floral arrangements, which should be placed on the high altar and remain in Church after the wedding.
5. Rice, confetti, rose petals, and bubbles are not allowed inside or outside of the church.
6. The Bridal Party will have 15 minutes to take pictures in the Sanctuary after the ceremony is over. Please ensure your photographer knows this information. Permitted to film from everywhere except in the sanctuary.
7. Please keep in mind that the altar is a sacred place in our church, and should not be used as a worktable, nor should anything be placed on it.
8. No candles (including unity candles) are allowed except those used by the church.
9. All florist decorations and props must be removed from the church at the end of the wedding with the exception of two floral arrangements, which should be placed on the high altar and remain in Church after the wedding.
10. During the Christmas season, the Church will remain decorated with poinsettias through the Baptism of the Lord.
11. During the Lenten season, the altar flowers should be removed from the altar after the ceremony.
12. During the Easter Season, the Church will remain decorated with lilies until the Second Sunday of Easter, Divine Mercy Sunday.

