

Wedding Guidelines

Rehearsal

- *Schedule at least a month in advance the rehearsal time with the parish clergy assigned to you.
- *We highly encourage Catholic individuals of the wedding party to celebrate the sacrament of Reconciliation prior to the wedding. The sacrament of Reconciliation will be available following rehearsal.
- *The Wedding Ambassador will be at the rehearsal and have the church unlocked for you. This is a good time to ask her any questions you might have.

Day of Wedding

- *Please keep in mind, that prior to the ceremony the couple is not to consume alcohol.
- *Access church for decorating and photography beginning three hours before the ceremony.
- *The parish's wedding ambassador will be there to assist and answer any questions as needed.
- *Rooms being utilized for dressing for the wedding will have fixtures specific for hanging clothes on. Please avoid hanging items on doors, windows, cabinets etc.
- *Instruct ushers to cease sitting guests 5 minutes prior to the wedding so that parents may be seated and the wedding party may move into place.

Environment Décor

- *We ask that you keep environmental décor to a minimum.
- *The florist should deliver the flowers to the narthex.
- *Flowers in the sanctuary may be placed in front of the ambo and altar with the assistance of the wedding ambassador. No flowers may be placed on the altar. If you would like to have special flowers in memory of a family member we recommend utilizing a separate stand.
- *All environmental décor for the liturgical season (banners, candle sticks, etc..) are to remain in place and not be moved.
- *Use of a unity candle, or other similar secular traditions, are highly discouraged.
- *Unfortunately, we do not allow use of aisle runners given they are a tripping hazard.
- *Flower petals for a flower girl are allowed, as long as they are picked up immediately following the ceremony.
- *Any environmental décor on pews is to utilize parish provided hangers. No exceptions.

*No helium balloons are allowed given the potential of them “getting away” and rising into the rafters.

*We request that the throwing of rice, birdseed, flower pedals, bubbles etc. following the wedding not be done. These types of traditions may be better served at the reception. In lieu of these traditions the parish can arrange for the bells of the church to sound when leaving the church. Please let the clergy and wedding ambassador know you would like this done when planning the ceremony.

Photography / Videography

*All that is in our church is to be treated as sacred.

*Photography/Videography in the church can begin three hours before the ceremony.

*There will be a parish wedding ambassador at the church in case you need anything (such as a ladder) or have questions.

*All reverence should be given when photographing/videotaping in and around the sanctuary.

*During the Mass/ceremony we ask that you do not enter the sanctuary and be discreet about your movements.

*We ask that no one stand on pews, chairs, piano bench or sit on the piano. If you are in question please ask the parish's wedding ambassador before proceeding.

*If you need a safe and locked space for your equipment during the ceremony please speak with the wedding ambassador and they will arrange that for you.

Clean Up After the Wedding

*We ask that no photography/videography occur after the Mass/ceremony as clean up and preparations need to begin as soon as possible. Parish Reconciliation begins at 3:15 p.m. on Saturday in the church. The latest you can be in the sanctuary is **3:00 p.m.**

*Pews should be checked for any programs or other items left behind. Please dispose of them properly.

*Flowers/petals should be removed, along with any items in the narthex/gathering space that you utilized to welcome your guests.

*The rooms utilized for dressing should be cleared of food, beverages, boxes and bags. We will provide garbage cans in each room for this. We ask that these rooms look as good as you found them.