

Congratulations.

on your journey toward Holy Matrimony!

Dear Friends,

Our Family of Faith at St. Peter Catholic Church is eager to begin this journey of the Sacrament of Marriage with you. We offer you our prayerful support and Christian friendship as you seek to live out the sign of Christ's Love for His Bride, the Church. I look forward to accompanying each of you and your future Catholic family.

*Through the Intercession of St. Peter,
Fr. Christopher Cambre*



*St. Peter Catholic Church
P.O. Box 40
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P. 337.896.9408
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PREPARATION FOR MARRIAGE

Step By Step...

- I. Initial meeting with Father Cambre or officiant/Sign Affidavit/Pay fees
- II. Diocesan Marriage Instrument/events/NFP Courses
- III. Meetings with Father Cambre or officiant to discuss
- IV. Sacrament of Marriage

Getting Started...

A request to schedule a wedding and reserve the Parish's Church and other facilities must be made in person at the Parish office; reservation requests are not taken by telephone, fax, or email. No reservation is finalized until the proposed officiant affirms that he will officiate and assume responsibility for all pre-marital preparations. Thus, a couple who wishes to schedule a wedding at St. Peter Catholic Church should first approach a Catholic priest or deacon, to ensure that he will provide the necessary premarital preparation and then officiate. If the officiant is not of the Diocese of Lafayette, he must provide a "Letter of Suitability" in order for him to preside. Catholics who are not parishioners of the St. Peter Catholic Church Parish should approach their own pastor, for his permission is needed. He, or one of the other clergymen assigned to their "home" Church Parish are the best persons to choose as officiant as well. The pastor assigned to St. Peter Catholic Church Parish ordinarily cannot provide this service to parishioners from elsewhere.

If the Officiant, who will celebrate the Rite of Marriage and witness the vows, is someone other than the assigned clergy of St. Peter Catholic Church Parish the proposed Officiant must contact the Pastor of St. Peter Catholic Church to inform him of his willingness to assume the responsibility to prepare the couple according to the requirements of St. Peter Catholic Church and officiate at the marriage. This is required before a final date of marriage will be booked.

Engaged persons must provide the following to St. Peter Catholic Church Parish Office at the time of the request to schedule a wedding:

1. A signed affidavit indicating they have read and agree to abide by all of the regulations governing weddings at St. Peter Catholic Church Parish.
2. Payment in full of the ordinary fees is required. The current schedule of fees is part of this Policy, but note that these usual fees may change at any time.

Use of Church and Fees:

In order to cover the costs associated with the use of St. Peter Church, an offering from couples celebrating their weddings at St. Peter Church is required. This offering assists utilities and other building costs, as well as church staff.

- **Parishioner (Fee \$250)** – Someone who is a registered, active, and supportive member

of St. Peter's Church for at least **one year prior** to the date of the wedding. (In other words, joining St. Peter's parish and then scheduling a wedding shortly thereafter will not be cause to change the fee.)

- **Former Parishioner (Fee \$400)** – Someone who grew up while attending St. Peter's but has moved away; received sacraments at St. Peter's AND parents who are still registered parishioners of the church.
- **Non-Parishioners (Fee \$700.00)** – Someone who is registered at another church parish and/or not currently residing in St. Peter's parish boundaries.

The offering due is payable in full at the time the reservation is requested. The offering is to be paid by check or money order, payable to "St. Peter Catholic Church."

Also, engaged persons in time must provide the following to the priest or deacon who will officiate at the proposed wedding. He will in turn provide this to St. Peter Parish Office as part of the prenuptial file created.

MEETINGS WITH FATHER CAMBRE or OFFICIANT ***Check List...***

- Recently acquired Baptism certificates for both from Church of Baptism (with sacramental notations) of bride and groom.
- Recent copies of paperwork in reference to any previous marriage, present marriage, divorce, and annulment: *copies of Marriage License from first marriage, Final Decree of Divorce from previous marriage(s), Degree of Nullity from first marriage, Death certificates.* A signed affidavit stating there is "no previous marriage" by any party who is non-Catholic. This should be completed by a parent, sibling, or close relative of the non-Catholic party
- If Non-baptized, a copy of Birth Certificate
- Proposed Wedding date: _____
- Rehearsal Date: _____
- Register to Complete the required "Prepare and Enrich" Assessment (or an approved option) & "Natural Family Planning" Classes.

INITIAL MEETING WITH FR. Cambre or OFFICIANT

- Discuss Marriage as a Sacrament
- Complete Pre-Nuptial Inquiry
- Review required Preparation Programs and Evaluation Instruments
- Finalize date of wedding

MEETINGS WITH FR. CAMBRE or OFFICIANT

- Discussion of Prepare and Enrich Results, Natural Family Planning, and Catholic Family Life within the Sacrament of Marriage.

- Minimum of 3 meetings with Officiant

TURN IN THE FOLLOWING TO THE PARISH OFFICE ONE MONTH PRIOR TO THE WEDDING:

- Turn in Music Selection for approval
- Turn in selection of lectors, readings, altar boys, extraordinary ministers of Holy Communion, and wedding party names.

FINAL MEETING WITH FR. CAMBRE or OFFICIANT

- Finalizing details of the marriage liturgy

******1 MONTH PRIOR TO THE WEDDING, OR EARLIER. FOR AN OFFICIANT OTHER THAN A PRIEST/DEACON OF SAINT PETER:**

- Turn in completed Pre-Nuptial File to St. Peter Parish Office with required signatures and containing all documents including “Letter of Suitability” (if applicable), permissions, dispensations, current certificates of baptism, records of Marriage Instrument, Certificate of Natural Family Course. Failure to do so will likely result in the Wedding being postponed. A “Letter of Delegation” to the Officiant will not be administered until all documentation is received and verified.

Important Questions to Discuss with Your Officiant

Check the following that apply...

Previously Married?

If you were married civilly (before a judge or Justice of the Peace) or sacramentally (blessed by a Catholic priest or deacon) or even witnessed by a protestant minister, please inform the Priest or Marriage Coordinator as soon as possible.

- ☐ **I am a baptized Catholic, civilly married prior to my current engagement.** I understand that the Church must declare my marriage illicit before I can proceed with my current engagement because Catholics are bound by Church Law to marry before an ordained Priest/Deacon and two witnesses.
- ☐ **I am baptized Catholic, sacramentally married before a Catholic priest or deacon prior to my current engagement.** I understand that the Church must declare my marriage null before I can proceed with my current engagement. Due to the sensitivity of the issue, greater explanation of the annulment process will be given under the pastoral guidance of Fr. Cambre.

☐ **I am a baptized non-Catholic, married to a baptized non-Catholic before a protestant minister, Judge, or Justice of the Peace, prior to my current engagement.** I understand that the Church must declare my marriage null before I can proceed with my current engagement for marriage in the Catholic Church. Greater explanation of the annulment process will be given under the pastoral guidance of Fr. Cambre.

Living Together Before Marriage?

- ☐ I understand the teaching of Christ and His Church that a man and woman should not live together in an intimate union of more than just friendship prior to marriage.
- ☐ In order to avoid scandal to the Faithful of the Church and to the society at large, I understand that since I share bed and board with my fiancée that the Church offers me a Service of the Word and the Exchange of vows.

Marrying someone who is not Catholic?

- ☐ **I am a Catholic, and I wish to marry someone who is baptized but not Catholic.**
- ☐ I understand that a Baptized Catholic declares that he or she is prepared to remove dangers of ever leaving the Catholic Faith and of making a sincere promise that all children will be baptized and brought up in the Catholic Church.
- ☐ I understand that the baptized non-Catholic must be aware of the promise and obligation of the Catholic party.
- ☐ I understand that the Catholic party will sign a declaration of promise in the presence of the priest or deacon and the baptized non-Catholic fiancé to bring up the children in the active practice of the Catholic Faith as Baptized Catholics.

Civilly Married and wish to have Marriage regularized by Christ and His Church?

- ☐ **I am a baptized Catholic married before a judge or Justice of the Peace and I wish to have my civil marriage recognized by the Catholic Church.** I understand that, if there are no impediments to marriage, I will be granted a private wedding ceremony.

Checked off any of the above?

- ☐ I understand that I must present to the priest an authentic Certificate of Baptism with notations recently acquired from the Church of my Baptism, an authorized copy of the marriage license, and an authorized copy of the decree of divorce.

MAINTENANCE AND DEPARTMENT POLICIES FOR MARRIAGE LITURGIES

Our concern is that your wedding ceremony be holy and meaningful for you and your guests. We present the following requirements to help preserve the sacredness of the Marriage Ceremony and the beauty of our Church Property.

For both the wedding rehearsal and the wedding you are reminded that St. Peter is a Church, a place of worship where the Blessed Sacrament is reserved. It is not a museum or a rental hall. The conduct, and attire, of the wedding party and the guests should reflect the sacredness of the place. There should be no shouting, loud noise, or improper conduct inside the Church or on the Church grounds. Eating and smoking are not allowed inside the Church.

The bride and groom will be held responsible for the conduct and behavior of the wedding party inside the Church and on the Church grounds herein outlined. This also includes leaving the church and property neat and clean and free of any damage. Please make your wedding day a happy one and avoid any type of embarrassment to you and your guests.

Date and Time of rehearsal and wedding

- Date and Time are tentative until requirements met and verified with priest.
- Please be aware that there are certain days in the Church's calendar where a wedding Mass cannot be celebrated. In this case, a wedding may take place using the Mass of the day with the inserted marriage ritual or a marriage ceremony without a Mass.
- No wedding can be scheduled in the afternoon of the eve of a major feast or a holy day of obligation. In addition, no wedding can be scheduled on All Souls Day, or during Lent.
- Weddings may be scheduled on most Mondays through Fridays at any reasonable
 - hour and on Saturdays until 1pm and after 6pm.
- Rehearsals are usually scheduled one or two days before the wedding, at 4:00, 5:00, 5:30 or 6:00 p.m. depending on the St. Peter's schedule. **ONLY THE BRIDAL PARTY SHOULD ATTEND THE REHEARSAL.** Other guests of the rehearsal supper should go directly to that location.
- One hour is allowed for rehearsal; the wedding party is to arrive 5 minutes prior, assigned to partners and seated quietly in pews at the rear of the church.

Wedding Party

- No more than 8 bridesmaids and 8 groomsmen, including Maid of Honor and Best Man
- Maid/Matron of Honor and Best Man must be at least 18 years of age (state law)
- Flower girl and ring bearer are not to become the main attraction in the entrance procession (take into consideration the suitability of the children's age and personality); no wagons; no throwing of flowers on the floor of the Church
- **Bridal gowns/bridesmaids dresses:** below the knee; no revealing splits, low front, low back, sleeveless, or halter tops; shawls or jackets must be worn during ceremony if the dresses are too revealing in anyway.

- Tuxedos must be of presentable style (e.g., no bright colors, leather, studs, chains); no cowboy hats; but military dress is appropriate
- St. Peter church has no dressing room facilities. All members of the wedding party are to arrive fully dressed.

Selection of Readers (optional; priest or server can read)

- Must be Catholic (according to Church Law)
- Familiar with readings at Holy Mass
- In good standing with the Catholic Church and able to receive the Sacrament of Holy Communion
- Dresses modestly and appropriately

Gift Bearers (optional)

- Only the bread and wine to be offered in the Holy Mass is to be brought up
- Need to be practicing Catholics
- Dressed modestly and appropriately (no hats)

Altar Boys

- Altar boys should be experienced and will be assisted by altar boys from the Church of Saint Peter

Sacred Music and Musicians

- Since weddings are an act of worship, the music chosen must necessarily foster a sense of the sacred and assist those assembled in their prayer.
- The musical texts, whether vocal or instrumental, must be either biblical or sacramental in nature, free from association with secular or popular music, before, during, and after the liturgy. Sentimental favorites from movies, Broadway, or the radio are best saved for the reception where they can be heard in a better context.
- The use of tapes and CDs is not permitted in church.
- All music to be played at the marriage liturgy must be approved two months before the wedding and before the final meeting with Fr Cambre/officiant.
- Hymns that are not on the prepared music list, must be of a Catholic worship repertoire.
- Only those musicians that are on the approved list are permitted to sing in the wedding ceremony. (See attached list of approved music and musicians.)

No Alcoholic Consumption

- It is absolutely forbidden to bring alcoholic beverages and/or other drugs on the grounds of the Church or inside the Church itself.
- Anyone under any influence of alcohol at the rehearsal, and especially at the wedding, will be asked to leave the Church premises
- The wedding will be postponed if either of the spouses is under the influence of

alcohol\drug use (otherwise the vows would not be valid)

Church décor\Florists

- If your wedding date falls during one of the major liturgical seasons (Advent, Christmas or Easter) when special decorations are already in the church, or when the Church has been decorated for a parish ceremony, you will not be allowed to change or adjust these decorations for your wedding. These decorations must remain.
- Your florist is responsible for placing, setting, and removing decorations
- The decorations cannot be placed before a Mass\liturgy that precedes your wedding
- Call the parish office to set time for decoration of Church
- No candelabra or pew-end torches are allowed anywhere in the Church (only altar candles for Mass will be lit)
- No Floral arrangements are allowed on the communion rail; no artificial flowers; arrangement cannot be more than 36" (3') in height, and must be placed on a plastic water basin.
- Arbors and Canopies or anything that could hinder the view of the sanctuary are not allowed
- No white runners, throwing of rice, flowers, birdseed, petals, etc. inside or outside of the church; no pets or wagons
- No plastic pew clips, no tape, tacks, hardwire, etc., is permitted to be attached to the pews (Because of the delicate wooden pew-ornamentation); ribbons, white/gold elastic or rubber bands may be used
- No one is allowed to move, rearrange, or remove anything in the Church at any time for any reason
- The wedding will be delayed if these guidelines are not followed
- No unity candles

Videographers\ Photographers

- It is recommended that you engage a licensed photographer.
- Due to the Sacredness of the Marriage Ceremony, they should be quiet and discreet, not moving during the readings and ceremony.
- No one is allowed to interrupt the marriage liturgy or to enter the Sanctuary
- Photograph sessions are not allowed before the wedding inside the Church
- If there is no time constraint, an additional 30 minutes may be used to photograph family group pictures on the steps of the sanctuary after the wedding. The Pastor will determine if there is enough time, especially for weddings on Saturday at 11am or in the afternoon.

Marriage License (The State of Louisiana)

- The Civil Government has some requirements. Please obtain the marriage license from the Lafayette Parish Court House.
- The courthouse is open Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. and the Marriage Department is located on the first floor.
- Both bride and groom need to appear in order to secure a marriage license, with both sets of

the following documents produced.

- o Each of you needs a certified copy of your birth certificate and a valid driver's license, or passport or military I.D. (If you are under eighteen years of age, your parents must sign their consent for you to marry.)
 - o If you have been married before, a civil decree of divorce is required; if widowed, a death certificate is required.
 - o You can go to the Lafayette Parish Clerk of Court site @ lpclerk.com for additional information.
- **IMPORTANT:** The marriage license is valid for only thirty days from the date of issuance. There is also a seventy-two hour waiting period from the time of issuance before you can be married (unless a judge issues a waiver).
- Please make the clerk aware of the date and time of your upcoming wedding to assure you are within the time constraints imposed by the State of Louisiana.
- Please drop off the license folder and all of its contents to the church office a week prior to your wedding.
- The marriage license is signed by the bride, groom and witnesses at the rehearsal.

Rosary before the Wedding

- A Catholic custom exists whereby a Rosary is prayed for the couple 30 minutes prior to the Nuptial Mass and led by someone of your choosing.
- This announcement is often placed into the wedding invitation.

Sacrament of Confession

- All Catholics are urged to receive the Sacrament of Penance prior to their wedding day as preparation for their marriage. Arrangements may be made with any priest. A good confession should be made as close to the wedding day as possible.

APPROVED SACRED MUSIC FOR MARRIAGE LITURGIES

(Any music found in the St. Peter Church Hymnal is also approved.)

**Requires a vocal quartet.*

Prelude Music

Ave Maria (Bach-Gounod)
Ave Maria – F. Schubert
I have loved you
I lift up my soul
On this day, O Beautiful Mother
Peace Prayer of St. Francis
Surely the Presence

Hymn for Mothers and Grandmothers

Ave Maria (Bach-Gounod)
Ave Maria – F. Schubert
Hail Mary: Gentle Woman

Procession of the Wedding Party

Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring – J. S. Bach
Canon in D – J. Pachelbel
Arioso – G. F. Handel
In your love remember

Procession of the Bride

Trumpet Voluntary – J. Clarke
Canon in D – J. Pachelbel
Ubi Caritas
I have loved you

Offertory

Ave Verum Corpus – W. A. Mozart*
Panis Angelicus – C. Franck
The Gift of Love – H. Hopson
Wherever You Go – D. Haas
Everlasting Love
I lift up my soul
In your love remember me
Peace Prayer of St. Francis
You are Near

Communion

Ave Verum Corpus – W. A. Mozart*
Panis Angelicus – C. Franck
The Gift of Love – H. Hopson
Surely the Presence
Wherever You Go – D. Haas
Laudate Dominum – W. A. Mozart*

I have loved you
Cup of Life Outpoured
Everlasting Love
I lift up my soul

Presentation of Flowers

Ave Maria (Bach-Gounod)
Ave Maria – F. Schubert
Hail Mary: Gentle Woman
Immaculate Mary
La Salutation Angelique
On this day, O Beautiful Mother

Recessional

Allegro Maestoso (Hornpipe) – G. F. Handel
Rondeau – J. Mouret
Prelude to the Te Deum – M. A. Charpentier
Trumpets Voluntary
Wedding March

❖ Responsorial Psalm (select one)

Only one of the following may be chosen.

- The earth is full of the goodness of the Lord.
- I will bless the Lord at all times.
- The Lord is kind and merciful.
- Happy are those who do what the Lord commands.
- The Lord is compassionate to all his creatures.
- Let all praise the name of the Lord.

Sacred Music Selection

****Please refer to St. Peter Sacred Music Policy for Weddings before making your final selection of music for your wedding.**

I make the following music selection for my wedding:

Prelude Music:

1. _____

2. _____

Hymn for Mothers and Grandmothers:

Procession of the Wedding Party:

Procession of the Bride:

Offertory: _____

Communion:

1. _____

2. _____

Presentation of Flowers:

Recessional:

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS OF WEDDING POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

St. Peter Roman Catholic Church

P.O. Box 40; Carencro, LA 70520

Groom: _____

Bride: _____

St. Peter Church Tentative Scheduled Date: Upon receiving the church fee along with the signature of one of the engaged couple, the Church will be tentatively reserved for the specified date. **ONLY** for serious reasons, the pastor reserves the right to reschedule or change the date.

***Tentative** date of wedding _____ Time: _____

***Tentative** date of rehearsal _____ Time: _____

Celebrant: _____ Parish: _____

Acknowledgement of the Maintenance & Department Policy:

We have received a copy of the Wedding Policies and Procedures of St. Peter Catholic Church and we do hereby agree to abide by the policies and procedures.

By signing below we acknowledge and consent to the policies and procedures of St. Peter Roman Catholic Church. We fully hereby release St. Peter Roman Catholic Church and the Diocese of Lafayette from any accidents caused by any infraction of this policy.

Payment: Maintenance Offering to be paid in Full: \$ _____

Acknowledged at St. Peter Roman Catholic Church, Carencro, LA this _____ day of _____, _____.

Groom's Name (Print) _____ Sign _____

Bride's Name (Print) _____ Sign _____

Priest/Staff Signature: _____ Date: _____

***Tentative = Date of marriage is contingent upon Pastor's/officiant's final assessment of the couple's marriage preparation and final approval for wedding date.**

Marriage Readings

Below are listed all of the approved readings for the celebration of Christian Marriage. Please select one reading from each of the sections below with a check mark. You should plan to have one or two readers for your marriage ceremony. Try to pick readers who have a strong, clear reading style. Usually, one reader will read the Old Testament reading and the Responsorial Psalm, if you do not plan to have it sung; the other reader will read the New Testament reading. Make copies for your readers. Return this form to the Priest or office staff at least one week prior to the wedding.

Readings from the Old Testament

- ☐ Genesis 1:26-28, 31
- ☐ Genesis 2:18-24
- ☐ Genesis 24:48-51, 58-67
- ☐ Tobit 7:9-10, 11-15
- ☐ Tobit 8:5-7
- ☐ Song of Songs 2:8-10, 14, 16; 8:6-7
- ☐ Sirach 26:1-4, 13-16
- ☐ Jeremiah 31:31-32, 33-34

Responsorial Psalms

- ☐ Psalm 33:12, 18, 20-21, 22
- ☐ Psalm 34:2-3, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9
- ☐ Psalm 103:1-2, 8, 13, 17-18
- ☐ Psalm 112:1-2, 3-4, 5-7, 7-8, 9
- ☐ Psalm 128:1-2, 3, 4-5
- ☐ Psalm 148:1-2, 3-4, 9-10, 11-12, 12-14
- ☐ Psalm 145:8-9, 10, 15, 17-18

Readings from the New Testament

- ☐ Romans 8:31-35, 37-39
- ☐ Romans 12:1-2, 9-18 Long form
- ☐ Romans 12:1-2, 9-13 Short form
- ☐ 1 Corinthians 6:13-15, 17-20
- ☐ 1 Corinthians 12:31-13:8
- ☐ Ephesians 5:2, 21-33 Long form
- ☐ Ephesians 5:2, 25-32 Short form
- ☐ Colossians 3:12-17
- ☐ 1 Peter 3:1-9
- ☐ 1 John 3:18-24
- ☐ 1 John 4:7-12
- ☐ Revelation 19:1, 5-9

List of Approved Musicians

Name	Contact Number	Parish	Talent
Dr. Rendell James	(337) 278-7390	SPRCC Director of Music	Vocalist/Organ/Piano
Marcus McCullough	(337) 501-2725	St. Ann, Youngsville	Vocalist/Organ/Piano
Raphael Henry	(337) 739-8173	St. Leo the Great, Lafayette	Vocalist/Organ/Piano
Randal & Stacy Caffery	(337) 886-2843		Vocalist/Piano
Valery Andrus	(337) 991-0680		Vocalist/Piano
Stephanie Hoffpauir	(337) 837-9599 (337) 277-1962		Vocalist/Piano
Jodi Bollich	(337) 857-0030 (337) 298-4329	St. Genevieve, Lafayette	Vocalist/Piano/Organ
Karen Broussard	(337) 962-4751		Vocalist/Piano
Scotty Walker	(337) 984-5139		Trumpet
Jude Gaspard	(337) 278-2770		Trumpet
Jason Svendsen	(956) 371-0986		Trumpet
Jody Kovarik	(337) 212-9401 (337) 534-0390		Flute
Pat Melancon	(337) 332-4759 (337) 342-7228		Vocalist