

ST. JOSEPH'S PARISH

Marriage Guidelines & Policies

ST. JOSEPH PARISH

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Office hours: Monday to Friday 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. (The office is closed 12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m. for lunch)



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whatever you do, in word or in deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him. *Colossians 3:17*

Your decision to marry is an important one that will affect the rest of your life. We congratulate you and desire to help you begin your marriage happily and successfully.

- ★ It is our belief that for your wedding to be successful, your marriage must be a growth of your faith life. Since you are approaching freely the Church for the celebration of your marriage, it is our presumption then that God, Jesus Christ and the Church have meaning in your life and in your upcoming marriage. If not, we strongly suggest that praying together and going to church regularly become part of your preparation for marriage, because without this religious dimension to your life, what you do at the ceremony will be meaningless.
- ★ We expect that people using our Church do so respecting the teachings of our Faith and upholding the dignity of this Sacred Space.
- ★ You will need a recent baptismal and confirmation certificate. Requirements for a non-Catholic is a baptismal certificate and an affidavit, (which is a form signed and dated by a witness who testifies to the non-Catholics freedom to marry.)
- ★ Your marriage license may be acquired from any jewelry store. Your license needs to be brought to the parish office one full week before the date of the wedding.
- ★ If for any reason your wedding is postponed or canceled. Please advise the church as well as the music ministers of this change of plan. This allows the opening of the time to other couples.
- ★ We ask that, those who are not members of our parish and who choose to use our church, make a donation for its use. We will not refuse anyone who wishes to use our church, but who cannot afford to pay. However, as a general rule we ask that those using our Church donate \$200.00. This amount does not include a stipend for our priest or sound tech

- ★ All couples are required to complete a marriage course prior to the celebration of their wedding. The course at St. Joseph's is a flexible sponsor couple program. You will meet multiply times with your sponsor couple to discuss marriage. The first meeting in on Sunday February 25 starting at 5:00 p.m. in the Parish Hall. The fee for this is \$200.00 per couple to be paid the night of registration.
- ★ Couples are responsible for the music during their wedding, the clergy can suggest parish musicians that can be contacted. All music at weddings must remain within Diocesan Guidelines and should be reviewed by the celebrant. No playing of tapes or CD's is permitted during the wedding ceremony. All music must reflect the faith dimension of the religious celebration.
- ★ Photographers and video cameras are permitted during the wedding celebration granted they remain outside of the sanctuary and refrain from interfering with the wedding ceremony.
- ★ There is a \$25.00 fee for the sound tech person that we must hire for the wedding. This fee is to be paid to the secretary when you drop off your marriage license.
- ★ Regarding flowers and decorations: you are responsible for your decorations, including their retrieval from the church before the next service or Mass.
- ★ No confetti or rice or bubbles or anything of this nature is permitted in the church or on the church grounds during and after the wedding ceremony.

