



Wedding Guidelines

These guidelines have been developed to help you in planning your wedding here at St. Agnes Parish. We want your reception of the Sacrament of Matrimony to be a very joyful and sacred occasion.

1. You should speak to a priest for to six months prior to your ***anticipated*** wedding date for marriage preparation. A wedding date should not be set until you speak to ***your*** Pastor.
Marriage preparation options include:
 - a) *Engaged Encounter* – contact Marriage & Family Life Office
 - b) *Life choice Pre-Cana*-contact Marriage & Family Life Office
 - c) *Natural Family Planning Workshop*-contact Marriage & Family Life Office
(All of the above can be obtained from a priest.)
2. The fee for use of the Church is \$400 for registered parishioners and \$650 for non-parishioners. Half of the fee must be paid at the time the church is scheduled and is non-refundable. The other half is due no later than one (1) month before the date of the wedding.
3. Schedule a date and time for the wedding rehearsal, ***once this has been scheduled with the priest***. Be sure to confirm both dates and time with the church secretary well in advance of the wedding.
4. You must request a ***recently issued, certified copy*** of your baptismal certificate ***with notations*** from your church of baptism. This would be issued within 6 months of the anticipated wedding date.
5. If special dispensations are required, obtain them early on. (i.e. if one party is non-Catholic)
6. **Music:** St. Agnes recommends **Organist:** Daniel Blanchard 225-610-6824. **Pianist:** Christi Atkinson at 225-888-3866 or e-mail: Catkin817@gmail.com. **Cantor:** Nancy Hendrick 225-288-3441, Cristal Hebert 225-571-8336 or Mary Rosenbloom 225-362-6456.
7. Speak to your priest about Readings for the Marriage. You may provide your own readers; if not, the Church will provide readers, given sufficient notice.
8. You may provide your own altar servers: if not, the Church will try to make some arrangements, again, given sufficient, notice.
9. **Decorations:**
 - a) Flowers should be simple. ***Anything you bring into the church must be taken when you leave.*** (i.e. all decoration, plants, flowers[please notify Mrs. Arletta Averette, Altar Society President 925-5925], boxes, bows, pins, etc.)
 - b) A unity candle is permitted, but must be obtained from florist.
 - c) Nothing in sanctuary area (altar) should be moved. The priest's movements cannot be obstructed. Speak to the priest if you have specific questions.
The church aisle is 106 feet long. The white aisle runner is **not** allowed. The church can seat up to 1,000 people. There are 30 pews on either side of the main aisle.
10. We do not have a dressing room for the bride and bridesmaids. We do have a Conference Room in a separate building behind the church that can be rented at a cost of \$50, although we prefer that you come dressed. The same restrictions apply to the Conference Room as does for the church, If you interested, please contact the parish secretary well in advance.
11. ***Absolutely NO FOOD OR DRINK is allowed in church. Eating or drinking in church is not respectful!*** Anyone who comes to the rehearsal or the wedding that has been. ***drinking (alcohol) or is intoxicated will not be allowed to participate in the rehearsal or the wedding.***
12. Last but not least, Jesus is always present in the Blessed Sacrament. Please show respect for our Lord in the tabernacle by dressing modestly (bride, bride maids, others) during the rehearsal, while decorating and during the ceremony. Remember you are in the dwelling place of the Lord.

I hope these guidelines will be of help to you in preparing for your special day. Thanks, Saint Agnes Parish Staff