

SAINT WILLIAM CATHOLIC CHURCH

SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE POLICY

Couples may be married in our church if they, their parents or grandparents are registered, participating members of Saint William. A fully registered, participating parishioner is defined as having attended Mass at Saint William for a minimum of six months. (The use of offertory envelopes at mass helps us to determine parishioner participation.)

WEDDING FEES*

<u>Fee</u>	<u>Cost</u>	<u>Notes</u>
Church	\$500 -parishioner \$700 – relative of a parishioner	Due prior to securing a date for the wedding
Organist	\$300	
Cantor	\$200	
Wedding Coor.	\$200	
Altar Server	\$ 50	For a nuptial Mass
Convalidation	Fees vary based on ceremony	For civilly married couples

All fees are due a minimum of 30 days in advance of the wedding date. An honorarium for the presiding priest is customary but optional.

*Please note fees are subject to change.

Conference with a Priest or Deacon

If you are a qualified couple, please complete the **Application for Marriage** and either return to the Parish Office or email to weddings@saintwilliam.org. A member of the Wedding Ministry will contact you to arrange a meeting with a priest or deacon. At this initial meeting, a date may be set for the wedding requiring payment of the reservation fee.

Wedding Dates and Times

Generally, weddings can be held on any day of the week except Sundays. Fridays during Lent and certain Holy Days are also excluded.

Wedding times are 12:30 and 6:30 pm November through April and 12:30, 2, and 6:30 pm May through October.

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Instruction and Spiritual Preparation

This phase of preparation is intended to assist you with nurturing authentic relationship skills, and a sacramental understanding of marriage to help you live your marriage vows to the fullest. Each couple will complete all marriage preparations with a priest or deacon in accordance with the requirements of the Diocese of Venice.

For couples prepared outside of the Diocese of Venice and marrying at Saint William, all paperwork and documentation must be received by the Diocese of Venice at least two months prior to the wedding date. After review, your file will be forwarded to Saint William Parish.

For spiritual preparation the couple is encouraged in the participation of the following:

- Full, active, and conscientious participation in a Catholic parish. This includes attending Sunday Mass, being registered in the parish, partaking in faith formation opportunities, and supporting the parish financially.
- Celebrating the Sacrament of Reconciliation prior to the wedding, either at the regular confession times or by appointment.
- Taking time for prayer and meditation centered on themes of love, commitment, and marriage as a source of God's presence.

Wedding Coordinator

Approximately four to six months prior to your wedding date, you will be contacted by a parish representative that will serve as your wedding coordinator. Your coordinator will assist you in the selection of readings, protocols of the wedding, facilitate your wedding rehearsal and be present at the ceremony to ensure all goes smoothly.

Decorations

Decorations may be brought in two hours before the wedding. Please note the following restrictions:

- No adhesive, hooks, or pins are to be used on the pews or any church furnishings
- No additional candles can be added to the Church or altar
- No pews or aisles are to be blocked in any manner
- No aisle runner
- Flower girls and Ring bearers are to be symbolic only
- Any décor already in the Church must be left in its place, including seasonal flowers during Easter and Christmas
- Rice, birdseed, or the like are not allowed outside of the Church following the ceremony

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Flowers

Saint William is happy, whenever possible, to coordinate the weekly altar flowers with the couple's wedding colors. If you choose to provide your flowers, please follow the following guidelines:

- No more than three arrangements in the sanctuary
- Flowers should not block the sightline of the altar
- All decorations are to be removed within 30 minutes of the conclusion of the ceremony
- Placement and removal of all flowers is the responsibility of the wedding party

Photography/Videography

We understand that documenting your wedding is an important part of your day! We also believe in the dignity and solemnity of the wedding as a worship service. Please make sure your photographer/videographer are given and understand the following restrictions prior to the ceremony:

- All decorations and the wedding party, including photographers/videographers, must leave the inside of the church within 30 minutes of the end of the ceremony
- Flash photography is not permitted by anyone during the ceremony
- Photographers/Videographers must not be positioned in the center aisle where guests are seated
- Photographers/Videographers may not cross from one side to the other at the front of the church
- Photographers/Videographers are not allowed on the altar
- Video equipment must be set up in the rear of the sanctuary and may not be moved during the ceremony
- Additional lighting of any kind is not allowed during the ceremony
- No wires may be laid across the aisles
- Equipment may not be affixed to the church walls or furnishings
- Tampering with the Church's audio or video is not permitted
- Photographers/Videographers should be dressed appropriately for Mass

Music

The marriage ceremony is a worship service, and the music should reflect and be consistent with the Christian understanding of love and marriage. Music from the entertainment industry, pop-culture, or similar genres is not appropriate at any time during the celebration of Christian marriage. Saint William follows the directives for musical content set forth by the Conference of Catholic Bishops for the United States (USCCB).

Couples must make music arrangements with Richard Owen approximately three months prior to the wedding date. He can be reached at Richard@saintwilliam.org. All music selections must be approved by him, and couples are required to use the services of the Saint William Music Director/Organist as well as

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a Cantor from Saint William. Music choices are listed on the Saint William website under Sacraments. The church musician fees are outlined in the Fees section of this document.

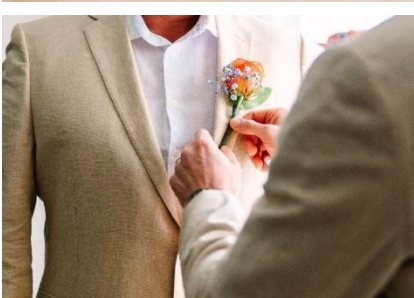
To enhance the beauty of your ceremony additional musicians are available as well. The Director of Music will provide referral information for these musicians. Fees for additional musicians are separate from the Saint William Wedding music fees and are paid to the musician(s) directly from the couple.

Wedding Party and Decorum

Our church is first and foremost a place of worship. All wedding party attire for the rehearsal and ceremony should be modest and appropriate. At no time are food and beverages to be brought into any part of the Church. Smoking or vaping is not allowed at any time. There should be no alcohol consumed before or during the rehearsal or the wedding.

The Rehearsal

Rehearsals are usually scheduled for the day prior to your wedding. It is important that they begin on time and are completed within one hour. Everyone taking part in the ceremony should attend the rehearsal. Outside wedding consultants are welcome to be present at the church but have no role in the rehearsal or ceremony. The couple is asked to bring their marriage license with them to the rehearsal. (In the State of Florida a marriage license is valid for 60 days. It is the responsibility of the couple to obtain the license and the wedding cannot be performed without it.)



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APPLICATION FOR MARRIAGE

Today's Date_____

Wedding Date_____Time_____Visiting Priest ____yes____no

I am ____ a parishioner of Saint William

____related to a Saint William parishioner (name)_____

Bride _____

Address_____

Telephone_____Email_____

Religion_____Church of Baptism_____

Have you been married before ____yes ____no

If yes, are you free to marry ____yes ____no Date of Annulment_____

Groom _____

Address_____

Telephone_____Email_____

Religion_____Church of Baptism_____

Have you been married before____yes ____no

If yes, are you free to marry ____yes ____no Date of Annulment_____

Paperwork Preparation (married at St William, prepared outside of the Diocese of Venice)

Parish of Preparation_____

Address of Parish_____

Diocese of Parish_____

Preparation Only at St William (to be married outside of the Diocese of Venice)

Parish of Wedding_____

Address of Parish_____

Diocese of Parish_____

Name of Officiant_____

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Photos by Fabiola X Photography, 239.821.0093



Photo by Joseph Hardin Films