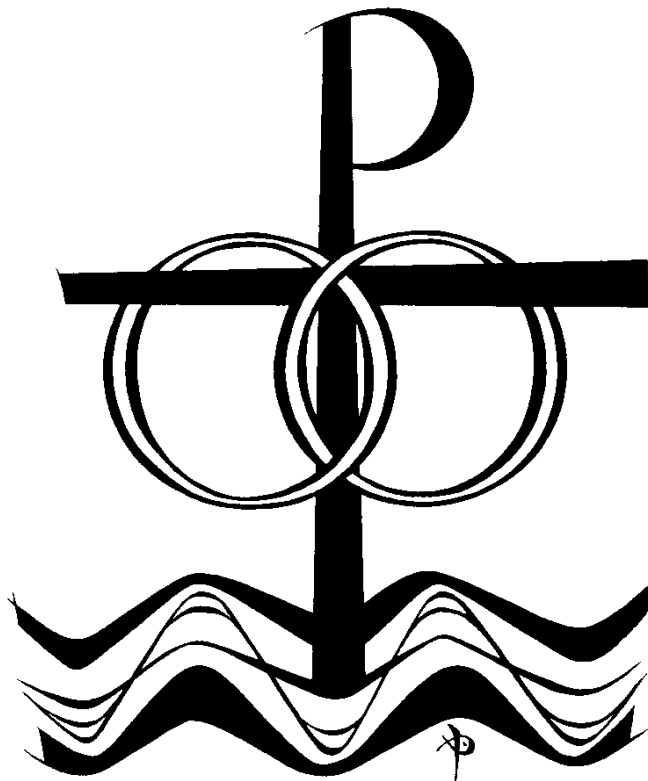


Guide for Marriage Preparation

Church of St. Peter, Mendota

A guide to help you prepare for and plan your wedding at
The Church of St. Peter
1405 Hwy.13
PO Box 50679
Mendota, MN 55150-0679



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Contents

Eligibility for Marriage at The Church of St. Peter	5
Preparation Requirements	5
Marriage at St. Peter's requires the following.....	5
Necessary Meetings.....	5
Recommended Sequence.....	
Required Documents	5
The Couple's Personal Circumstances	6
Marriage to a Non-Catholic Christian in a Catholic Church.....	Error! Bookmark not defined.
Marriage to a Non-Catholic Christian in the Non-Catholic Party's Church	Error! Bookmark not defined.
Marriage to a Person Who is Not Baptized	Error! Bookmark not defined.
Cohabitation	Error! Bookmark not defined.
Prior Bonds of Marriage (Either party is divorced)	Error! Bookmark not defined.
Reception of Sacraments	7
Confirmation	7
Confession and Holy Communion	7
Mass on Sunday after the Wedding	7
Planning the Wedding Liturgy.....	8
The Wedding Liturgy	8
Choosing Readings	8
The Priest or Deacon, and Visiting Clergy	8
Choosing Music and Musicians.....	8

Vows	11
Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion	11
Lectors	11
Gift Bearers	12
Unity Candle	12
Wedding Program and the Order of Worship	12
Wedding and Rehearsal Details.....	13
Flowers	13
Decorations	13
Times for Weddings and Rehearsals.....	13
At the Rehearsal	14
Food and Drink at the Church	15
The Role of the Wedding Coordinator.....	15
The Role of Attendants	15
The Role of the Ushers	16
Fees	17
Church Selection.....	17
Photography and Videotaping	20
Program Sample for Wedding Mass.....	Error! Bookmark not defined.
Program Sample for Wedding Liturgy	Error! Bookmark not defined.
Photography and Videotaping Policy Tear-Out for Photographer.....	26
Engaged Couple's Prayer	23
Directions to St. Peter.....	24
Important Contact Information.....	24

Eligibility for Marriage at The Church of St. Peter

An engaged couple may be eligible for marriage at St. Peter's if one or more of the following applies:

- The bride, groom or both are registered, active, contributing members of the parish, or
- The parents of either the bride, groom or both are currently registered, active, contributing members of the parish.
- If neither of the engaged couple, nor their parents, are currently registered, active, contributing members of the parish but either the bride, groom or both are living within the geographical boundaries of the parish.
- If the engaged couple lives OUTSIDE the geographical boundaries of St. Peter's they may formally register as members of the parish. However, they must be registered, active, contributing members of the parish for a minimum of six months before wedding preparations may begin. Permission from the couple's geographical pastor may be required prior to confirmation of a wedding date.
- As always, the fundamental desire of our community is to give witness to the intrinsic values of the Sacrament of Matrimony. We realize that legitimate pastoral exceptions to the guidelines listed above may arise. If there are pastoral exceptions that need to be shared, then we ask you to contact us to set up an appointment to discuss such situations.

Preparation Requirements

Marriage at St. Peter's requires the following

Necessary Meetings

- One meeting with the Pastoral Associate.
- Three meetings with the priest or deacon.
- Meeting with our music director.
- Four to six sessions with a mentor couple or counselor to complete Fully Engaged marriage inventory*
- Participation in an approved marriage preparation retreat
- Participation in an approved Natural Family Planning class
- Attendance at an approved Theology of the Body workshop.

Required Documents

The following documents will need to be provided:

- A baptismal certificate for each of you issued six months or less before the wedding date (or, for a non-Catholic, even an older certificate may suffice)

- A marriage license issued by any Minnesota county
- Completed affidavits establishing the bride's and groom's freedom to marry.

Reception of Sacraments

Confirmation

It is expected that a Catholic being married would have received the sacrament of Confirmation. Church law states, “If they can do so without serious inconvenience, Catholics who have not yet received the sacrament of Confirmation are to receive it before being admitted to marriage”. If one or both Catholic party has not yet been confirmed, please inform the priest or pastoral associate at your intake meeting.

Confession and Holy Communion

Church law states, “It is strongly recommended that those to be married approach the sacraments of penance and the Most Holy Eucharist so that they may fruitfully receive the sacrament of marriage”. A future bride or groom who is not accustomed to receiving Communion must tell the priest about the situation and have it remedied.

Those to be married should not fail to go to confession within a few weeks of the wedding and are encouraged to receive the sacrament of penance frequently.

Mass on Sunday after the Wedding

Couples are reminded that they have the same obligation to participate in Sunday Mass on the weekend of their wedding that they do every Sunday. It is a grave sin to miss Sunday Mass and a regrettable way to begin married life.

Couples whose post-wedding travel plans on airlines or ships make it impossible to participate in a Sunday Mass are urged to ask their pastor for a dispensation from the obligation to participate in Sunday Mass.

Planning the Wedding Liturgy

The Wedding Liturgy

The choice to be married in the Catholic Church, whether during or outside of Mass, acknowledges the importance of the role of the Church and her liturgies in the couple's lives of faith. When liturgy is done well, it draws the participants into communion with God and with one another, strengthening us in our journeys as Christians and in sharing our joy in Christ. This is achieved when all of the aspects of liturgy support one another in drawing us toward that which is sacred: the texts that are used, the liturgical actions, processions and gestures, and the music that accompanies these. Therefore, care must be taken when choosing texts, rituals and music for a wedding.

Choosing Readings

Couples receive a packet containing all the readings from which they may select their wedding readings.

The Priest or Deacon, and Visiting Clergy

With the explicit permission of the pastor, another Catholic priest or deacon may be invited to celebrate a wedding. He must, however, be registered as a cleric by the State of Minnesota in order to celebrate a wedding in this state. The couple may ask the pastor to concelebrate with the visiting priest, or the pastor may simply not be present at all on the wedding day.

A couple who wish to have a deacon receive their vows may inquire about this. If they would like to have a wedding Mass and have a deacon receive their vows, the pastor will celebrate the Mass and allow the deacon to preach and receive the vows.

Choosing Music and Musicians

All couples who marry at the Church of St. Peter must consult with the director of music to plan the music for their wedding. It is assumed that couples will meet with the director of music for guidance in selecting music, in addition to obtaining approval 2-3 months in advance of the wedding date.

The wedding liturgy is sacred in nature and vocal music that is not sacred is not allowed during the wedding itself. Even music that is pleasing to hear and which represents good art is not to be used for a wedding if the words are not directed to the sacred. It is permitted, however, to use a piece of secular music as a prelude to the wedding. The director of music will guide couples in making this determination and the pastor maintains the right to make the final decision regarding any questionable selections of all music chosen.

An accompanist must be hired to provide support for the liturgy, whether inside or outside the context of the Mass. Many recommendations may be found below, or by consulting the

Director of Music. Either organ or piano is suitable for the support of liturgical song.

A wedding liturgy also requires a cantor. The director of music can be of assistance in hiring the singer. While the cantor is certainly permitted and encouraged to sing a piece of music solo, he or she also leads the congregation in many liturgical pieces including, but not limited to, the responsorial psalm, the Gospel acclamation and any congregational hymns. Because a Catholic wedding is an act of worship, it is wise to remember that a singer is not hired to perform, but to lead a congregation in a portion of their worship.

The couple may also include instrumentalists in their wedding in addition to the accompanist and cantor. Those details will be worked out with the director of music.

The ideal wedding ceremony should have a balance of solos as well as congregational singing. Your goal is to encourage “full, conscious and active participation” from those who gather for your wedding liturgy. Your guests are celebrating with you, not merely observing. Singing enables your guests to join you in celebration to a fuller extent.

The Church of St. Peter has the *Gather Comprehensive Hymnal-Second Edition* (Red Hymnal) in our pews in the new worship space, with *Gather Comprehensive* (Green Hymnal) in the Historic Church. There is a Liturgical Index as well as a Topical Index in the back of the hymnal to help you find appropriate music; e.g., marriage, love, thanksgiving, praise or commitment.

Prelude

You may have about 15 minutes of music before the wedding begins as guests arrive and are seated. This music can be instrumental, vocal, or both. All types of Christian music are appropriate here: classical, semi-classical, or contemporary. Talk to your musicians for suggestions.

Processional and Recessional

These are some of the most requested processionals and recessionals. There are literally hundreds to choose from.

Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring-Bach
Ode to Joy-Beethoven
Water Music-Handel

Trumpet Voluntary-Clarke
Trumpet Tune-Purcell
Canon in D-Pachelbel

Responsorial Psalm

This is a psalm text that is sung immediately following the first reading. The cantor sings the verses, while the congregation is invited to join in singing the refrain. These are the most requested psalms from the Gather Hymnal.

Ps. 33: Let Your Mercy Be on Us (Refrain II)#32 Red (verses only)#45 Green
Ps.34: Taste and See#34 Red#47 Green
Ps.103: The Lord Is Kind and Merciful#59 Red#100 Green
Ps. 128: Blest are Those Who Love You#70 Red#125 Green
Ps. 145: I Will Praise Your Name.....#76 Red#137 Green

Gospel Acclamation

This is sung following the second reading, as the celebrant stands to read the Gospel.

<i>Celtic Alleluia</i>	#266 Red	#258 Green
<i>Gospel Acclamation</i>	#158 Red	#177 Green
<i>Alleluia</i>	#223 Red	#187 Green
<i>Alleluia</i>	#211 Red	#198 Green

Eucharistic Acclamation

These are sung only if you are having a Mass. We suggest you choose one setting, which includes the Holy, Memorial Acclamation, Great Amen, and Lamb of God.

<i>Mass of Creation</i>	#147 – 149, 152 Red	#166 – 168, 171 Green
<i>Mass of Light</i>	#226, 228, 230-231 Red	#190, 192, 194-195 Green

Communion Songs

You will need a communion song only if you are having a Mass. The communion song needs to be congregational singing, which is a sign of our unity. Because many people will be processing to Communion, it is recommended that you choose a song that has an easily sung refrain.

<i>Song of the Body of Christ</i> ... #807 R#847 G	<i>Let Us Be Bread</i>#808 R....#816 G
<i>Come to the Banquet</i>#810 R	<i>Pan de Vida</i>#811 R....#848 G
<i>One Bread, One Body</i>#813 R#830 G	<i>We Come to Your Feast</i>#814 R....#850 G
<i>Life-Giving Bread</i>#821 R#822 G	<i>Behold the Lamb</i>#824 R....#823 G
<i>Taste and See</i>#827 R#814 G	<i>Let Us Break Bread</i>#832 R....#832 G
<i>Table Song</i>#833 R#849 G	<i>Take and Eat This Bread</i> ...#839 R....#842 G

Songs Suitable for Congregational Singing

The following songs are suitable for processional songs or for the preparation of the gifts. During the preparation of the gifts, the music can be instrumental or a vocal meditation.

<i>Love Is the Sunlight</i>#855 R #866 G	<i>God, in the Planning</i>#858 R.....#868 G
<i>When Love is Found</i>#856 R #865 G	<i>We Will Serve the Lord</i>#652 R.....#869 G
<i>Wherever You Go</i>#857R #872 G	<i>For the Beauty of the Earth</i> ..#548 R ...#572 G
<i>Joyful, Joyful,</i>#520 R #528 G	<i>Praise and Thanksgiving</i> ... #754 R#764 G
<i>Not for Tongues of Heaven's Angels</i>#612 R.....#623 G
<i>Glory & Praise to Our God</i>#537 R.....#522 G

Meditations

These suggestions may be used for preludes, the lighting of the unity candle, or meditation after communion. These suggestions are the most requested.

<i>Ave Maria</i> - Schubert or Gounod	<i>How Beautiful</i> -Twyla Paris
<i>And On this Day</i> - Tina English	<i>He Has Chosen You for Me</i> - Pat Terry
<i>Bridal Prayer</i> - Roger Copeland	<i>The Prayer</i> - Bayer/Sager
<i>Grow Old Along With Me</i> - J. Lennon	<i>Wedding Song</i> (There is Love)

Piano/Organ

Mary Lou Larson Feine 952-881-2683

Jean Thompson 952-890-9162

Stephanie Devine 651-686-0633
Cindy Mokus 952-892-0318
Patty McPherson 612-325-2577

Betsy Sullivan 651-552-1860
Rita Berens 651-456-5766
Michelle Plombon 651-228-0975

Cantors

The following list of musicians includes some of the people who have shared their musical talent at St. Peter. If you worship here, you will have heard a wide variety of cantors and musicians. If their name is not on the list, feel free to ask them.

Ann Farrell 651-457-1040
David M. Dunst 651-905-4323
Kathleen Hanson 651-480-2228
Bart & Wanda Schempp 651-454-7679
Dale Bachmeier 651-224-2868

Dan & Kelly Garrett 651-340-8963
Toni Marie O'Daniel 651-451-7058
Ted Holien 651-452-8676
Mary & Michael Partington .. 651-457-5164
John Mark & Trish Reimann. 651-456-0077

If you prefer other instruments as well, e.g. guitar, bass, acoustic, violin, flute, harp, we can provide you with some names. Also, we suggest you call any college or university music department for a list of musicians for hire. The names of musicians and cantors must be submitted to the Director of Music to ensure that they make contact in advance of the wedding date.

Vows

The packet with the readings also contains the vows. The text of the vows is printed in its usual form, as well as in the alternative form allowed in the United States. Couples may not write their own vows.

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion

At weddings that take place within the Mass, the bride and groom receive under both species. That is, they receive both the Body of Christ and the Blood of Christ. The congregation generally receives only the Body of Christ. The priest often needs one extraordinary minister of Holy Communion to assist in the distribution of the consecrated hosts, especially for weddings in which more than 100 practicing Catholics are present. If the couple has invited someone who is commissioned to give Communion in his or her parish, they should inform the priest at their final meeting. He will say a prayer commissioning that person for a single occasion at St. Peter.

Lectors

Couples may choose one, two or three lectors to proclaim the first and second readings from sacred Scripture and to announce the petitions of the general intercessions. At a wedding within Mass the lectors should be practicing Catholics. At a wedding outside the Mass, it is sufficient that the lectors be baptized. All lectors should be skilled at reading aloud and must conform to the standards of the Catholic Church. Readings must be proclaimed using the approved translation in the lectionary.

Gift Bearers

In a wedding Mass, the two or three people chosen by the couple to bring forward the gifts of bread and wine must be Catholics we are able to receive Holy Communion. This action is not just a necessity; those who bring forward the gifts express the participation of the faithful.

Consecration to Mary

All weddings within Mass will include a Consecration to Mary, which may happen at the same place in the liturgy as the lighting of the unity candle. The unity candle is optional.

Unity Candle

The unity candle is not part of the Catholic Rite of Marriage so its use is not required. It is, however, permitted. If the couple wishes to have a unity candle, the ritual of lighting it after the vows is simply added to the wedding. Candles are not provided by St. Peter but we do have silver candelabra that may be used for this purpose.

The side candles are lit before the wedding begins. Couples should note that the practice of having parents light the side candles as the procession begins greatly complicates the timing of the procession and is likely to take away from the parents' sense of calm at an important moment for them. Such practices are not encouraged.

Wedding Program and the Order of Worship

Wedding programs and the Order of Worship serve two separate purposes. One is to acknowledge the family and friends who participate in the wedding; the other is to identify the order of the liturgical events that take place so that the congregation can easily participate in this act of worship, respectively.

The couple may choose to provide a program, but it is not required. St. Peter's will provide an Order of Worship, published to the parish's specifications.

If you choose to provide a program, you may choose to include any of the following:

- (For Historic Church only) **Given the smallness of the Historic Church and its excellent acoustics, we ask parents with small children to be seated in the rear of the church; that way they can easily step outside if a child should become uncomfortable."**
- (For either church) **Flash pictures may be taken when the wedding party comes into and goes out of church. Flash pictures may not be taken between those times.**
- (For either church) **We ask our guests not to throw rice, confetti or birdseed either inside or outside the church."**

Wedding and Rehearsal Details

Flowers

Decorations, including flowers and plants, that have been put up as part of the parish's observance of a liturgical feast or season may not be removed or altered. Except during Advent and Lent, flowers may be placed in the sanctuary in a location that will not obstruct anyone's view of the liturgy. Please be sure that any decorations brought into the church for the wedding are removed afterward. You may choose to assign this task to one or two people to ensure that the church is left in good condition. Personal attendants and/or ushers can be assigned this responsibility. You are responsible for all clean up, removing all programs that may have been left, including in the pews, and all decorations.

Flowers may never be placed on the altar of sacrifice or the baptismal font.

Decorations

We do not allow aisle runners.

The throwing rice, confetti and/or birdseed either inside or outside the church is not allowed. Bubbles may be used; however, please be sure that the empty containers are properly disposed of and not left on the church property.

If you desire candelabra (other than a unity candle holder), please contact a rental service, typically florists rent these. Be sure that the candles used do not drip wax so that the church floor does not become damaged by wax.

Please exercise care in your purchase of unity candles so that they don't burn and drip wax too easily. Some of the elaborate candles may be made with a very thin wax that burns very quickly. St. Peter's will provide a wood stand that the holder may be placed on and all wax must be removed by someone you have designated to do so.

Pew bows are allowed. Please do not staple or tape anything to the pews. Pipe cleaners, in addition to pew bow clips (found in many craft stores), may also be used.

Times for Weddings and Rehearsals

Wedding rehearsals are the evening before the wedding, and are to be scheduled at 4pm. The rehearsal is helpful for all those in the wedding ceremony in preparing for the ceremony and becoming familiar with the order of the ceremony. The rehearsal time must be set up with the wedding coordinator. The wedding coordinator will run the rehearsal. The role of the wedding coordinator is given in detail later in these guidelines. Normally, musicians and the celebrant are not present at the rehearsal. If, however, you have a celebrant other than the pastor of St. Peter, we encourage him to be present at the rehearsal to become introduced to our space. Please make sure that all those involved in the ceremony are at the rehearsal and on time. The wedding coordinator

will begin the rehearsal at the designated time even if some participants have not arrived. The rehearsal typically lasts 45 minutes to an hour.

NOTE: Use of alcoholic beverages on church premises before, during, and after the rehearsal is not allowed in any circumstance.

Most weddings take place on Friday evening or Saturday afternoon. A Friday evening wedding may be scheduled no later than 6 p.m. A Saturday afternoon wedding ceremony, whether within Mass or outside of Mass, may be scheduled no later than 1 p.m. At a Saturday afternoon wedding, all photographs must be taken before 3 p.m. and all photographic equipment must be removed from the church by that time.

On Saturdays, the church will be opened two hours before to the wedding for picture taking and decorating. This time has been set because occasionally it is necessary to be able to celebrate a funeral on a Saturday morning. If an earlier time is needed, please discuss this with the wedding coordinator who will determine through the parish office if an earlier time is possible. Additional fees for earlier openings are given in detail in our fees section of these guidelines.

Marriages may be celebrated on nearly any day except Sundays, Holy Days and the Holy Week preceding Easter. Weddings during the season of Advent and Lent are discouraged because of the penitential nature of that season. If a wedding is scheduled during one of these seasons, special limitations regarding flowers and decorations will be shared at the intake meeting. Weddings during the Octave of Easter (the eight days immediately following Easter Sunday) may not take place in the context of the Mass.

At the Rehearsal

The couple must bring the marriage license, as well as accompanying instructions and return mail envelope, to the rehearsal and given to the wedding coordinator.

Unpaid fees, outlined in the next section, must be given to the wedding coordinator at the rehearsal.

The bride and groom, best man and maid/matron of honor, the rest of the wedding party, parents of the bride and groom, ushers, lectors, extraordinary ministers of Holy Communion, and bearers of the gifts should attend the rehearsal. The wedding coordinator will begin rehearsal at the scheduled time even if some attendees have not arrived on time, so couples should ensure that those involved in the liturgy arrive on time.

It is unnecessary for the musicians to be at the rehearsal.

Food and Drink at the Church

NOTE: Use of alcoholic beverages on church premises before, during, and after the wedding is not allowed in any circumstance.

Further, visiting a bar before the wedding is highly discouraged for the wedding party. This can call into question the bride's and groom's ability to make their vows.

Since the wedding party will be at the church at least two hours before the liturgy, it is often a good idea to arrange for them to eat as they prepare. The bride and her attendants will occupy the Family Room located in the gathering area outside the Main Worship Space. The groom and his attendants will be assigned a room by the coordinator at the rehearsal. We do not have refrigerators available; couples usually bring their own coolers. Consumption of food and drink is restricted to these two rooms; absolutely no food or drink is allowed in the sanctuary.

The Role of the Wedding Coordinator

The parish wedding coordinator will help you with the many details of your wedding liturgy. The coordinator will assist you in some of your preparations in finalizing a rehearsal time, lead the rehearsal and help to ensure that everything runs smoothly during the ceremony. Because of this, other wedding coordinators are not needed for the ceremony at St. Peter. The coordinator will complete a liturgy planning form with the couple at least two weeks prior to the wedding rehearsal.

A wedding coordinator will contact the couple a minimum of two weeks before the wedding date. As mentioned in the section below on fees, the stipend for the wedding coordinator is \$175, which should be paid directly to the coordinator at the rehearsal. Services included in this stipend are as follows:

- The wedding coordinator will attend and lead the wedding rehearsal.
- The wedding coordinator will arrange for the couple and wedding party, florists, decorators and photographers two hours before the scheduled liturgy begins on the day of the wedding.
- If the couple requests more time, i.e. an earlier arrival the day of the wedding for decorating and photography, this must be negotiated with the coordinator in advance at a rate of an additional \$75/hour.
- Please be advised that an earlier arrival is not always possible and is contingent on church availability, i.e. there may be a funeral on a Saturday morning and therefore the church is unavailable until two hours prior to your liturgy.

The Role of Attendants

St. Peter places no restrictions on the number of attendants. Because the best man and maid/matron of honor act as official witnesses for the Church as well as the State of Minnesota, both must be at least 16 years of age and at least one must be a practicing, confirmed Catholic.

The best man and maid/matron of honor should return with the priest to the sacristy immediately following the liturgy to sign the marriage license. They must not leave for the rehearsal until they have signed this very important document. Once signed, St. Peter will submit the completed license to the county from which it was issued, and you will receive your marriage certificate from the county at a future date. We cannot mail this document without the signatures of your attendants.

The Role of the Ushers

Besides seating the guests for the liturgy, we require the following from ushers or others the couple has designated to fulfill these obligations:

Before the wedding:

- Assist the wedding coordinator with the placement of kneelers, chairs, lighting candles, etc.
- Inform arriving guests with cameras (still and video) about our photography policy, found below in the photography and video section.

During the wedding:

- Remain at the back of the church to direct latecomers unobtrusively to seats by way of side aisles.
- Assist guests during the service, i.e. directions to the restrooms, caring for someone who is ill, etc.

After the wedding:

- Remove wedding materials, such as flowers, programs, pew bows and all other debris associated with decoration of the church.
- Package and removal of unity candles and wax removal from candelabra and stand if necessary.
- Return of chairs and kneelers to their original places.
- Check all rooms used by the bride and groom and their attendants to ensure complete removal of personal items and leftover food and beverages.
- Any other cleanup deemed necessary by the coordinator.

NOTE: It is essential that the ushers remain at St. Peter until they have checked with the wedding coordinator to ensure that everything has been cleaned and all personal items removed.

Fees

The following is a list of fees associated with the wedding process at St. Peter:

- Processing of the Fully Engaged inventory is \$30. This must be paid before the inventory may be sent. Please make check payable to St. Peter's and send to the attention of the pastoral associate.
- The parish requires payment of a \$750 fee (\$1,000 if neither the bride or groom nor their parents is a member of the parish) to cover the use of the church, utilities, etc. At least six months before the wedding date, the first \$250 of this fee is paid as a non-refundable deposit. The balance is due at the rehearsal and should be given to the wedding coordinator in the form of a check made out to The Church of St. Peter.
- If a couple is preparing at St. Peter for a wedding at another parish, a nonrefundable \$250 fee is assessed and due before a mentor couple for the Fully Engaged marriage inventory will be assigned.
- Rental of special items (for example a candelabra) is to be handled directly with the couple and the supplier.
- The wedding coordinator stipend is \$175, plus fees required for an early arrival time arranged for in advance, paid directly to the wedding coordinator by wedding couple.
- Each musician has his/her own fee. You are responsible for paying them at their discretion. Most musicians prefer to be paid on the day of the wedding.
- Theology of the Body workshops are \$50/couple, payable on the day of the workshop.
- The approved marriage preparation retreat and Natural Family Planning classes are arranged and paid for by the couple with the facilitators directly.

Church Selection

At St. Peter, you have a unique opportunity to choose between our two churches, the Historic Church, built in 1853 and the Main Worship Space, newly built and dedicated in 2005.

Things to keep in mind as you decide in which space you will celebrate your vows:

- The Historic Church can accommodate 125 guests, including the wedding party. Weddings larger than 125 guests will be scheduled in the Main Church.
- If your music includes more than a couple of musicians, the main worship space has a defined music area, as well as a grand piano, guitar/electrical hook-ups, a new organ and a state-of-the-art amplification system. For smaller weddings with simpler music arrangements, the Historic Church has beautiful acoustics.
- There are no bathroom facilities or dressing areas in the Historic Church.

Questions are often asked about the layout of the inside of the churches. The following photos and brief information provide a quick visual of the inside of each church.

Main Worship Space

The number of pews in the Main Worship Space is 12 on each side of a 60 ft aisle. The seating capacity is 700 people.



Historic Church

The number of pews in the Historic Church is 17 on each side of 75 ft aisle. Seating capacity is 200 people maximum.



If the wedding is to take place in the Historic Church, we encourage you to incorporate the following text into your program:

- **The Historic Church of St. Peter in Mendota is the oldest Catholic Church in the state of Minnesota. It stands at the confluence of the Minnesota and Mississippi Rivers, looking across the beautiful valley to historic Fort Snelling.**
- **The original structure was built in 1853. The restoration of the Historic Church was completed in September 1978. The old pews were stripped and refinished, the original hardware was used, antique lighting was installed and the old bell was hung in the replica steeple.**
- **The contributions of the parishioners, the interested community and the dedication of the Guardianship Board have helped to preserve our heritage for generations to come.**

Photography and Videotaping

It is important that photographers or video camera operators not become a distraction during the service. They should check with the wedding coordinator before the liturgy if they have any questions. No pictures may be taken during the ½ hour preceding the ceremony. At a Saturday afternoon wedding, all photographs must be taken before 3:00 p.m. and all photographic equipment must be removed from the church by that time.

PROTECT YOUR VALUABLES – St. Peter's Main Worship Space and the family room are located in a building with free access to outsiders. For this reason we cannot accept responsibility for any personal possessions, including photographic equipment, left unattended by members of your wedding party, relatives and friends.

Occasionally a couple wishes to have pictures taken separately so they do not see each other before the wedding. Couples should be advised that this practice dates back to arranged marriages and the fear that the groom would find his bride unattractive. This practice is to be avoided.

While pictures are being taken before the wedding in the sanctuary, the wedding party is reminded that they will be in the house of God and should conduct themselves accordingly.

No one, including the photographer, may move furniture in the sanctuary, except for chairs providing all chairs are returned to their proper place before the liturgy begins.

During the procession and recession the photographer may not stand in the aisle or leap from pews into the aisle and back again. The couples in the wedding party will be processing with no more than ten feet between them, so the photographer must remain in one position to the side of the procession and take pictures of each couple if that is desired. Under no circumstances may the photographer stop or delay the procession. Flash photography may be used during the procession only.

During the wedding, flash photography is not permitted and the photographer must take care to be unobtrusive in his/her movements. The photographer should note that in both churches the bride and groom will be facing the congregation when they exchange their vows.

If the wedding is to be videotaped, this should be done from the rear of the church.

This section has been reproduced in the back of this guide so that it can be torn out and given to the photographer.

Order of Worship for the Celebration of Matrimony Within Mass

This liturgy outline is the Sacrament of Marriage within Mass. The celebrant must be a priest.

Prelude	<i>Music Title</i>	<i>Composer</i>
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Introductory Rite

Processional	<i>Title</i>	<i>Composer</i>
Greeting		
Opening Prayer		

Liturgy of the Word

First Reading	<i>Scripture Reference</i>	
Responsorial Psalm	<i>Music Title</i>	<i>Number in Book</i>
Second Reading	<i>Scripture Reference</i>	
Gospel Acclamation	<i>Music Title</i>	<i>Number in Book</i>
Gospel Reading	<i>Scripture Reference</i>	
Homily		

Rite of Marriage

Statement of Intentions		
Exchange of Vows and Blessing and Exchange of Rings		
Consecration to Mary		
Lighting of the Unity Candle (optional)	<i>Music Title</i>	<i>Composer</i>
Prayers of the Faithful-Please respond, “Lord, hear our prayer.”		

Liturgy of the Eucharist

Preparation of Gifts	<i>Music Title</i>	<i>Number in Book</i>
Eucharistic Acclamations		<i>Numbers in Book</i>
The Lord’s Prayer		
The Nuptial Blessing		
The Sign of Peace		
The Communion Song	<i>Music Title</i>	<i>Number in Book</i>
Prayer after Communion		

Concluding Rite

Final Blessing		
Presentation of Couple		
Recessional	<i>Music Title</i>	<i>Composer</i>
Postludes		

Order of Worship for the Celebration of Matrimony Outside Mass

This liturgy outline is the Sacrament of Marriage outside of Mass. The celebrant can be either a priest or a deacon.

Prelude	<i>Music Title</i>	<i>Composer</i>
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Introductory Rite

Processional	<i>Title</i>	<i>Composer</i>
Greeting		
Opening Prayer		

Liturgy of the Word

First Reading	<i>Scripture Reference</i>	
Responsorial Psalm	<i>Music Title</i>	<i>Number in Book</i>
Second Reading	<i>Scripture Reference</i>	
Gospel Acclamation	<i>Music Title</i>	<i>Number in Book</i>
Gospel Reading	<i>Scripture Reference</i>	
Homily		

Rite of Marriage

Statement of Intentions		
Exchange of Vows and Blessing and Exchange of Rings		
Consecration to Mary (optional)		
Lighting of the Unity Candle (optional)	<i>Music Title</i>	<i>Composer</i>
Prayers of the Faithful-Please respond, "Lord, hear our prayer."		
Nuptial Blessing		
The Lord's Prayer		
The Sign of Peace		

Concluding Rite

Final Blessing		
Presentation of Couple		
Recessional	<i>Music Title</i>	<i>Composer</i>
Postludes		



Engaged Couple's Prayer

*Gracious and loving God,
we give you thanks for the love we share,
and for bringing us together.*

*As we prepare for our wedding,
help us to grow in mutual respect
and love for one another.*

*Help us to prepare for our wedding
by an increase of generosity to others
and by the prayers we make for a
long and happy life together.*

*Bless the many people who are helping us
to prepare for our wedding.*

*May we remain joyful and
in good-humor as the day draws near.*

Guide us to always live in love with each other.

*Teach us to love like Christ
all the days of our life together.*

Amen.

Directions to St. Peter

When traveling north or south on I-35E:

Take the Highway 110 exit from I-35E and go west. Turn right at Highway 13 (north), which is also called Sibley Memorial Highway. Go about ¼ mile and turn left into St. Peter's parking lot.

From East St. Paul suburbs traveling west on I-494:

Take the Highway 110 west exit off of I-494 and go about seven miles. Take Highway 13 north by taking a right at the stoplight. Go about ¼ mile and turn left into St. Peter's parking lot.

When traveling east on I-494 from Minneapolis:

Take the St. Paul-Highway 5 exit off I-494. Take the Mendota Bridge exit. At the southeast end of the Mendota Bridge, stay in the left lane. Take Highway 13 north turning left at the stoplight. Go about ¼ mile and turn left into St. Peter's parking lot.

From Highway 62/Crosstown:

Highway 62/Crosstown intersects with Highway 55 near the Veterans Hospital in Minneapolis. Do not turn here but continue on Highway 55 heading southeast. Go across the Mendota Bridge and stay in the left lane. Take Highway 13 north by turning left at the stoplight. Go about ¼ mile and turn left into St. Peter's parking lot.

When traveling east from Minneapolis on I-94:

Take the Kellogg Boulevard exit off of I-94 to St. Paul, and watch for I-35E (it will be about ¼ mile after crossing John Ireland Boulevard). Take I-35E south. Take the Highway 110 exit from I-35E and go west. Turn right at Highway 13 (north), which is also called Sibley Memorial Highway. Go about ¼ mile and turn left into St. Peter's parking lot.

Important Contact Information

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Photography and Videotaping Policy Tear-Out for Photographer

Photography and Videotaping Policy The Church of St. Peter, Mendota, MN

Please share this copy with your photographer.

It is important that photographers or video camera operators not become a distraction during the service. They should check with the wedding coordinator before the liturgy if they have any questions. No pictures may be taken during the ½ hour preceding the ceremony. At a Saturday afternoon wedding, all photographs must be taken before 4:00 p.m. and all photographic equipment must be removed from the church by that time.

PROTECT YOUR VALUABLES – St. Peter's Main Worship Space and the family room are located in a building with free access to outsiders. For this reason we cannot accept responsibility for any personal possessions, including photographic equipment, left unattended by members of your wedding party, relatives and friends.

Occasionally a couple wishes to have pictures taken separately so they do not see each other before the wedding.

While pictures are being taken before the wedding in the sanctuary, the wedding party is reminded that they will be in the house of God and should conduct themselves accordingly.

No one, including the photographer, may move furniture in the sanctuary, except for chairs providing all chairs are returned to their proper place before the liturgy begins.

During the procession and recession the photographer may not stand in the aisle or leap from pews into the aisle and back again. The couples in the wedding party will be processing with no more than ten feet between them, so the photographer must remain in one position to the side of the procession and take pictures of each couple if that is desired. Under no circumstances may the photographer stop or delay the procession. Flash photography may be used during the procession only.

During the wedding, flash photography is not permitted and the photographer must take care to be unobtrusive in his/her movements. The photographer should note that in both churches the bride and groom will be facing the congregation when they exchange their vows.

If video is to be recorded, this should be done from the rear of the church.

PLEASE request of your guests that they refrain from using cell phones, tablets, and other personal devices to record your wedding or take pictures.

THANK YOU.