



OUR LADY OF THE HOLY ROSARY CATHOLIC CHURCH

A Christ-Centered Community since 1905

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OLOHR.COM

Marriage Guidelines

Congratulations on your engagement and be assured of our support as you begin this exciting chapter in your life!

Selecting a Date and Time

Weddings may be scheduled on most weekdays, at any reasonable hour and on Saturdays until 1:00pm since time must be allowed afterward to clean and prepare the church for Saturday afternoon confessions and Mass. Weddings are discouraged during the season of Lent.

After completing the Marriage Application, couples must meet with the priest/deacon to establish their availability for your requested wedding date. The Diocese of Baton Rouge requires you to contact your church at least 6 months before your tentative wedding date. However, we recommend that you begin preparation at least 1 year before your wedding date. Although it does not take a year to complete the preparation process, it is best to give yourselves extra time to minimize stress.

Please refer to the church website: **olohr.com** for all marriage preparation information.

Rehearsal

Rehearsals are ordinarily scheduled on the night before the wedding but may also take place up to one week before the wedding. The time options are either 6:00pm or 6:30pm. Please have your wedding party arrive at church early so that we can start on time.

Church Fees

The fee for weddings at Our Lady of the Holy Rosary (OLOHR) is \$500 for registered parishioners and \$800 for non registered or out of parish couples. The fee is due at the time that the church is reserved.

Wedding Coordinator

A Wedding Coordinator will be provided by the church to assist with the rehearsal and to help at the ceremony as well. The fee for the Wedding Coordinator is included in fees mentioned above. There is a ceremony form attached to this packet that is to be completed and returned to the coordinator email (located at the bottom of the form) prior to rehearsal.

Music

Music is an essential element of wedding liturgy. All music selected for weddings is to be recognized liturgical music or classical music where appropriate. Couples are asked to contract separately for the services of musicians, whether organists, vocalists, or other instrumentalists.

There is list of musicians familiar with OLOHR attached to these guidelines. If you wish to contract someone outside of those listed, they must be approved by the pastor prior to contracting their services.

Decorations and Flowers

Couples are free to choose their own florist. During some seasons of the church year the church will be decorated with appropriate seasonal décor (especially during the Christmas and Easter seasons) which cannot be removed.

No more than two floral arrangements are allowed in the sanctuary and can be place on each side of the tabernacle. Pew markers must be attached with ribbon or plastic hangers only. Taping pew markers to pew ends is not allowed.

Due to safety concerns and details of the opening procession, the use of candles, any floor décor, wagons, or carts of any kind is strictly prohibited down the aisle. Throwing flowers, petals, rice, or birdseed either inside or outside of the church is also strictly prohibited.

It is not required to leave the flowers in church, but if you wish to do so for the weekend Masses, your offering is greatly appreciated.

Photographers

Couples may also choose their own photographer and videographer. Photos and videos are welcome if they do not become a distraction during the liturgy or impede the movement or flow of the liturgy. Photographers are not allowed in the raised sanctuary area.

The church is available for wedding photos only one hour before and 30 minutes after the wedding. If more time is needed, please arrange this with the Parish Office.

Wedding Party

Please limit the size of the wedding party to 6 bridesmaids and 6 groomsmen. Flower girls and ring bearers should be at least 5 years of age. Exceptions are allowed at the discretion of the pastor.

Alcohol Prohibited

Under no circumstances are alcoholic beverages to be brought on to the church property before, during, or after the rehearsal or wedding. Attendants who arrive intoxicated will not be allowed to participate in the wedding.

Full of Grace Café

A space for the bride and her attendants is available in the Full of Grace Café for **one hour** before the ceremony, if it has not been reserved by the Parish for another event. This can be reserved through our Facilities Coordinator (rdelatte@olohr.com). Please note that the space is not conducive for any dressing options for the bride or attendants. The gathering location for the groom and groomsmen is the cry (quieting) room in the back of the church.

Receptions

OLOHR is unable to host wedding receptions at this time.