

IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE WEDDING CEREMONY

- € Best Man & Maid (Matron) of Honor sign marriage license immediately after the wedding ceremony.
- € Bride & Groom section of the civil license given to Bride & Groom for their records.
- € Musicians paid.
- € Pictures: Pictures with the celebrant should be taken first in order to facilitate his schedule.
- € People designated by bride and groom to remove items used for the wedding. Please remove programs and other items found in the church, dressing areas and on parish grounds.

AFTER THE WEDDING DAY

- € Marriage License copied for parish records.
- € Section of Civil License mailed to clerk to be recorded.
- € Marriage entered in Sacramental Register of the parish and notice sent to place of baptism for Catholic parties.



Preparing for a **Catholic Wedding** Saint Mary Cathedral of the Annunciation

Wedding Guidelines for Parishioners

Bride: _____

Telephone Numbers : _____

Groom: _____

Telephone Numbers : _____

Sacraments are the prayers of the Church community. The wedding day is a celebration of the whole faith community and an experience with Christ. A bride and groom publicly pledge a commitment to love each other and it is witnessed by the assembled Church.

In these guidelines for weddings at St. Mary Cathedral, guidance is given for the celebration of the Sacrament of Marriage to provide a prayerful experience for you and the community. Working with the celebrant and ministers helps to make the ceremony a true celebration for the whole assembly.

We pray, that the wedding you are beginning to plan will be a wonderful, joyful experience for you, the bride and groom, and for your families and friends. The church community joins with you in your celebration and invites you to solemnize your marriage in the context of our prayer as Catholic Christians. We must remember that "parish communities are not compliant custodians of nice places for weddings; rather, weddings are gracious functions in the life of the parish community and of its members."

Saint Mary Cathedral of the Annunciation

615 William Street

Cape Girardeau, Missouri 63703

TEL (573) 335-9347 FAX (573)335-0649

E-Mail Address: smparish@stmarycathedral.net

Fr. Saunders's E-Mail Address: fsaunders@stmarycathedral.net

Website: stmarycathedral.net

07/2014 parishioners

THE BRIDE & GROOM'S GUIDE FOR PREPARING YOUR WEDDING

SESSIONS TO PREPARE FOR YOUR WEDDING

SESSIONS AT PARISH OFFICE

First Meeting

- € Church scheduled in celebrant's and parish's calendar for wedding and rehearsal.
- € Worksheets explained and given to couple
- € Baptismal Certificate requested from Catholic parties
- € Marriage Preparation Registration sent to the Catholic Center
- € Premarital Inventory (FOCCUS) Date taken: _____

Subsequent Meetings:

- € Nuptial Mass - or- € Ceremony Outside Mass
- € Premarital Inventory (FOCCUS) Date discussed _____
- € Marriage Registration Form completed
- € Baptismal Certificate(s) of Catholic parties
- ☐ NFP Class
- € Together For Life booklet given to couple
- € Rehearsal Date: _____
Time: _____
- € Wedding Date: _____
Time: _____

(Ceremony can begin no later than 12:30 PM)

- € Name of Photographer _____
Telephone: _____
Start: _____
Finish: _____
- € Name of Florist: _____
Telephone: _____
Delivery: _____

Final Meeting

- € Worksheet returned by couple
- € Review ceremony for wedding
- € Couple completes registration and parish files updated.

DOCUMENTS TURNED INTO THE PARISH OFFICE

- € Baptismal Certificate for Groom if baptized Catholic
- € Baptismal Certificate for Bride if baptized Catholic.
- € Marriage License (Please bring the license to the rehearsal.)
- € Schedule/arrangements for Wedding from the booklet
"Preparing for a Catholic Wedding" given to the celebrant
At least TWO WEEKS before the wedding.

FEES

- € \$25.00 fee paid for Marriage Preparation Session Materials
(Checks payable to Diocese of Springfield-Cape Girardeau)
- € \$15.00 FOCCUS Test Processing Fee

WEDDING REHEARSAL

- € Bride & Groom
- € Family of Bride & Groom
- € Wedding Party
- € Readers
- € Ushers
- € Marriage License, including return envelope, given to celebrant.
- € Let celebrant know what time you will arrive on the day of the
Wedding to use the dressing areas.

WEDDING CEREMONY

- € There are dressing rooms for members of the wedding party.
- The ladies in the lower level of the Parish Office Building.
- The men in the lower level of the rectory in the Pruento Room.
- € Groomsmen (unless processing in with bridesmaids) meet in the
Sacristy 10 minutes before ceremony.
- € Do not leave valuables in dressing area.
- € Do not leave food or beverages in the Cathedral.
- € Pictures may be taken from 10:00 AM until 2:00 PM for an
Afternoon wedding. Evening wedding pictures may begin
In church after the 5:30 PM Mass and conclude by 9:00 PM.
- € Candle lighters process in to light candelabra 10 or 15 minutes
Before ceremony.
- € Best Man & Maid (Matron) of Honor have wedding rings and
Present them to the celebrant during the ceremony.

MARRIAGE OUTSIDE MASS

Prelude Music (begin 30 minutes to 15 minutes before ceremony)

Processional (Instrumental/Solo)

Grandparents seated by ushers

(Someone notifies the musicians that parents are to begin their procession.)

Processional (Instrumental/Solo)

Parents of the Groom

Mother of Bride

Celebrant will bring Groomsmen down the center aisle or

Couples walk down together

Processional—Wedding Party (Instrumental)

Order of Wedding Party

Jr. Bridesmaids # ----- Jr. Groomsmen # -----

Bridesmaids # ----- Groomsmen # -----

Ring Bearer # ----

Flower Girl(s) # ----

Processional—Bride (Instrumental)

Old Testament Reading (B 1 - B 9)

Lector

Responsorial Psalm (C 1 - C 7)

(Responsorial Psalm may be sung)

Lector

New Testament Reading (D 1 - D 13)

Lector

Gospel Acclamation Sung

Gospel (F 1 - F 10)

Exchange of Wedding Vows

Blessing of Rings

Lighting of the Unity Candle

Instrumental Music

Prayer of the Faithful (J 1 - J 3)

Lector

Our Father (Recited or Sung by Congregation)

Nuptial Blessing (M 1 - M 3)

Sign of Peace (Instrumental/Solo Music)

Flowers to Parents (optional)

Recessional (Instrumental Music)

MARRIAGE PREPARATION SESSIONS

SESSIONS PROVIDED BY THE DIOCESE

Marriage Preparation Sessions (First Marriage); or

Marriage Preparation Session (Second Marriage); or

Engaged Encounter Weekend

Diocesan NFP Class

PREPARATIONS FOR THE WEDDING CEREMONY

CELEBRATING THE SACRAMENT IN THE CATHEDRAL

€ **Readers:** (one to three)

€ **Ushers:** (two to four)

€ **License:** You will need to apply for your marriage license at the Recorder of Deeds office in any Missouri county. You will need identification, and your Social Security numbers. The license is valid for a 30 day period.

€ **Witnesses** contacted, given times of rehearsal and ceremony. Tuxedos should be fitted & picked up before the Wedding day. Witnesses are placed to the right and left of the sanctuary on the main floor. The Best Man and Maid (Matron) of Honor will stand with the Bride & Groom during the exchange of vows and rejoin the attendants after the exchange of rings.

€ **Wedding Rings:** Usually a double-ring ceremony. The rings are brought in and presented to the celebrant by the Best Man and Maid (Matron) of Honor. If a ring bearer is present they carry a pillow holding symbolic wedding rings.

€ **Musicians:** Selections can be provided upon request. We also have a music minister who would be available to meet with the bride & groom. Musical choices must be religious or acceptable classical selections. Musicians and soloists perform from the choir loft. Pre-recorded selections are not the preferred choice of performance. Please confirm choice of music with the celebrant before the final selections are made. The "Wedding March" is not an available selection. Call the Parish Office (573-335-9347) if you would like to meet with our Minister of Music or if you are planning a music practice in the Cathedral.

€ **Photographer:** Pictures may be taken from 10:00 AM until 2:00 PM for an afternoon wedding. Evening wedding pictures may begin in the church after the 5:30 p.m. Mass and conclude by 9:00 p.m. These times also provide for the parish Saturday Masses and Confession schedules.

€ **Florist:** Check with florist to assure they have correct date and place of wedding. The Cathedral may be decorated after 9:00 a.m. on Saturday morning or possibly the evening before.

€ The **Unity Candle** is optional and does not have to be included.

- € Candles: For candelabra and other candles, excluding the Unity Candle, use mechanical candles. Do not use congregational candles for guests during the ceremony.
- € Decorations: Use plastic pew bow holders or ribbons to secure bows or pew decorations. No adhesives, “sticky tack”, duct tape, nails, staples or similar materials may be used anywhere in the Cathedral. Decorations and other articles are not placed on the main Altar. Items may be stored in the Radio Room.
- € For safety reasons, do not use an aisle runner.
- € Christmas, Easter and seasonal decorations may not be moved or rearranged.
- € Please appoint someone to pick up excess materials and remove your decorations from the church and from the dressing areas immediately after pictures are completed.
- € For safety reasons do not use rice or bird seed.
- € No alcoholic beverages on the parish grounds before or after the wedding ceremony. **Use of alcohol before the Wedding ceremony may cause the Wedding to be canceled for that day.**
- € In case there is a change in the parish schedule on the day of the wedding that may affect decorating the church or the taking of wedding pictures, you will be notified as soon as possible.

MARRIAGE DURING MASS

Prelude Music (begin 30 minutes to 15 minutes before ceremony)

Processional (Instrumental/Solo)

Grandparents seated by ushers

(Someone notifies the musicians that parents are to begin their procession.)

Processional (Instrumental/Solo)

Parents of the Groom

Mother of Bride

Celebrant will bring Groomsmen down the center aisle or

Couples walk down together

Processional—Wedding Party (Instrumental)

Order of Wedding Party

Jr. Bridesmaids # ----- Jr. Groomsmen # -----

Bridesmaids # ----- Groomsmen # -----

Ring Bearer # -----

Flower Girl(s) # -----

Processional—Bride (Instrumental)

Old Testament Reading (**B 1 - B 9**) -----

Lector -----

Responsorial Psalm (**C 1 - C 7**) -----

(Responsorial Psalm may be sung) Lector -----

New Testament Reading (**D 1 - D 13**) -----

Lector -----

Gospel Acclamation Sung

Gospel (**F 1 - F 10**) -----

Exchange of Wedding Vows

Blessing of Rings

Lighting of the Unity Candle

Instrumental Music -----

Prayer of the Faithful (**J 1 - J 3**) -----

Lector -----

Presentation of the Gifts

brought forward by two people -----

Instrumental/Solo during Preparation of the Gifts

Parts of the Mass Sung:

Holy, Holy; Memorial Acclamation; Great Amen; Lamb of God. Our Father (Recited or Sung by Congregation.)

Nuptial Blessing (**M 1 - M 3**) -----

Sign of Peace (Instrumental Music) -----

Flowers to Parents (optional)

Communion Hymn -----

Meditation Hymn (Optional)

Solo -----

Recessional (Instrumental Music) -----

SACRAMENTAL LIFE

€ You are encouraged to participate in the Sacrament of Reconciliation before your Wedding Day. The Sacrament takes place in the Reconciliation Room on Saturdays: 2:30 PM—3:30 PM. Appointments are available.

€ It is required that attendance at Sunday Mass is a weekly component of your spiritual preparation for the Sacrament of Marriage and will continue to be a source of spiritual strength after your Wedding Day.