



ST. MICHAEL'S CATHOLIC PARISH

POWAY, CA

Quinceañera Preparation and Celebration Guidelines

The following guidelines have been adopted within the San Diego Diocese for pastoral and liturgical guidance for formation and preparation of the Quince Años celebration.

Pastoral concerns:

All youth, regardless of race or cultural background, who have reached 15 years of age, may request a quinceañera celebration within the following guidelines.

- The fifteen-year-old should have already received the Sacraments of Baptism, Reconciliation and First Communion. Youth who have not received these Sacraments should register with sufficient anticipation (i.e. 2 years) to be able to enroll in our Religious Education preparation program.
- Quinceañera celebrations may not be scheduled before the youth has enrolled in such a program and with the approval of our Director of Religious Education.
- Quinceañera celebrations are to be considered as a part of comprehensive youth ministry based on the Bishop's document *Renewing the Vision ; A framework for Catholic Youth Ministry*, therefore youth are encouraged and invited to participate in the parish's Youth Ministry Programs and events.

Celebration:

Quinceañeras may be celebrated as a Mass or a Liturgy of the Word. Celebrations may be done individually or for a group and must be done in the main church.

- Liturgical norms are to be respected, in particular during Advent and Lent.
- Quinceañeras, their families and friends should be instructed of appropriate reverence and dress attire for the celebration.
- A rehearsal and overview of the Mass or liturgy of the word should be offered for the youth and their parents.

Preparation:

Our parish religious education team has adopted the Diocesan Quinceañera Preparation program according to the following guidelines:

- The “Preparation program*” may vary from 6 to 8 weekly sessions. (These should not be substituted for any sacramental catechetical classes.)
- Parents and quinceañera companions should be included in preparation programs.
- The parish team should meet the Diocese Safe environment requirement in order to serve as an instructor or catechist in the program.

**(The Diocesan Office for Youth Ministry will provide resources for preparation programs.)*

What does it cost to hold a Quinceañera at St. Michael’s?

There is a \$1,000.00 offering for registered and supporting parishioners and \$1,500 for non-parishioners/San Diego residents and \$2,000 for visitors outside the San Diego Diocese. This offering includes: Preparation class, the church, rehearsal, coordinator, music, altar servers and celebrant/deacon. A non-refundable deposit of \$250.00 is required to confirm your initial tentative date. The applicable balance is due no later than one (1) month before the ceremony.¹

Payments may be made by cash or check made payable to **“St. Michael’s Catholic Church.”** Please note cash payments must be made in person. Check payments may be made in person or by mail to St. Michael’s Catholic Church, 15546 Pomerado Rd., Poway, CA 92064, Attn: Parish Secretary. If sending by mail, please note the last name of the Quinceañera and the date of your Quinceañera celebration on your check.

¹ Outside vendor services, such as florists, photographers, videographers, etc. are not included.

Please contact Amber Samuels at youthminister@smpoway.org for more information or inquiries.