

WEDDING GUIDELINES FOR YOUR WEDDING AT THE CATHEDRAL

INTRODUCTION

Welcome to the Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament. What you are preparing for is of greatest importance for you as a couple, to your families and friends, and to the larger community of faith we call the Catholic Church. In many ways, we are all in this together.

In choosing to come to the Catholic Church for the celebration of your wedding, you have made a choice to begin and to live your marriage in a Christian manner--to see your wedding as more than just a wonderful social event, but as something which draws its deeper meaning from our faith. Because of this, it should not be surprising to you that the Church has some very definite expectations about how your wedding liturgy should be celebrated. These expectations are not arbitrary or difficult impositions intended to add to the already considerable challenges of planning a wedding. They are, rather, the Church's (and, in this case, the Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament's) way of helping you to set the tone for the celebration of an event that is of the greatest importance in your lives.

The members of the Cathedral staff stand ready to help you celebrate your wedding. We are eager to assist you in making your wedding a beautiful and faith-filled celebration.

We ask that, together, you read these Guidelines carefully. Please make note of any questions you may have for the priest, deacon, or wedding coordinator when you meet them.

OVERVIEW

This is a brief outline of the major steps to take while preparing for a wedding at the Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament.

- Contact Titi Kila, the Cathedral Wedding Coordinator, at (916) 444-3071 Ext 13; tkila@cathedralsacramento.org, to reserve a date and time of your wedding on the Cathedral calendar.
- Complete a Wedding Reservation Form and return it, along with a \$1,000.00 deposit, to the Wedding Coordinator, within two weeks of making your reservation. A copy is attached.
- Select one of the following Marriage Preparation Programs:
 - **Catholic Engaged Encounter Weekend**: This is beautiful weekend specifically designed to give engaged couples an opportunity to dialogue honestly about their lives together; their strengths, weaknesses, desires, ambitions, goals; their attitude about money, sex, children, family; and their role in the Church and society. Please refer to the Sacramento Catholic Engaged Encounter web site at: www.sacee.org.
 - **Cathedral Marriage Preparation Program**: The Cathedral offers a six-week marriage preparation program. Every week is created so you may discuss honestly with each other your strengths and unifying qualities. Please contact Janet and Omar Bardales at: matrimonyprep@att.net; and 916-427-9160.
 - **On-Line Marriage Preparation Program**: This is an excellent interactive on-line marriage preparation program recommended by the Sacramento Diocese. Please go

to: www.catholicmarriageprep.com out of the Diocese of Colorado Springs

- Contact Rex Rallanka, Director of Music, about the music for your wedding: 916- 572-2161 (cell); rrallanka@cathedralsacramento.org.

POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

Who May Officiate?

The priests and deacons assigned to the Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament usually officiate at the wedding. Priests and deacons from another parish or diocese may also officiate at your wedding. If the priest or deacon is not of the Cathedral parish, he will be given a Delegation to Officiate letter. If he is from another diocese, he must also obtain from his Bishop a Letter of Good Standing, and send it to the Wedding Coordinator.

Planning the Ceremony

1. Selection of Time and Date

Weddings at the Cathedral are normally celebrated on Saturdays. Due to the Cathedral Mass and Confession schedule on that day, the following choices are available: 11:30 a.m., 2:00 p.m., or 6:30 p.m. A Friday afternoon wedding is also possible.

2. Rehearsals

Rehearsals are normally conducted on Thursday or Friday at the following times: 4:00 p.m., 5:00 p.m., or 6:00 p.m. The rehearsal usually takes one hour. The rehearsal dates and times are arranged with the Wedding Coordinator. Rehearsal times requested on the wedding form are tentative until confirmed with the Wedding Coordinator. We ask couples to be flexible with their scheduled rehearsals.

It is important that you arrive on time for your rehearsal, and remind all members of your wedding party to do the same. Since the Cathedral calendar is routinely crowded, your rehearsal must start and end on time. All participants in the rehearsal are asked to dress appropriately.

3. Liturgy

A wedding is first and foremost a liturgical celebration of the Catholic Church, not just a personal or family event. The months before your wedding are an ideal time to pray together, and to talk about the place of God in your new life together.

The Rite of the Roman Catholic Church is used at the Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament. According to Catholic theology, the bride and groom administer to each other the Sacrament of Matrimony. The priest or deacon is the witness of the Church to this Sacramental Action. There are three types of wedding liturgies:

- a. The Order of Celebrating Matrimony within Mass between two Catholics,
- b. The Order of Celebrating Matrimony without Mass between a Catholic and a non-Catholic Christian,
- c. The Order of Celebrating Matrimony between a Catholic and a Catechumen or a Non-Christian.

In planning your wedding, you have the opportunity to select those prayers, scripture readings, blessings, and cultural practices which best express your desire for God in your lives, and the support of your community.

To aid in this planning, we use the booklet, *Together for Life*, by Msgr. Joseph M. Champlin (Ave Maria Press, Notre Dame, Indiana). The Wedding Coordinator will give you a copy at your first meeting.

Necessary Documents

The following documents must be in the Cathedral Parish Office at least **three months** before your wedding. Please send them as soon as feasible:

1. Baptismal Certificates for both bride and groom

A baptismal certificate, issued within the last six months, MUST be obtained from the church where you were baptized. Those baptized in another Christian Church or denomination also need a current Baptism Certificate if one exists.

2. Form A – Personal Testimony Form

Each of you must complete as much of a Form A as you can. A copy is attached. A deacon will contact you to schedule a convenient day and time to meet and complete your Form A's.

3. Form B – Testimony of Parent or Relative

Form B is the testimony from a parent, relative, or close friend that each of you is free to get married; and that each of you are mature and knowledgeable to enter into the Sacrament of Matrimony. A copy is attached. Two Form B's must be submitted by the bride, and two by the groom. The same two people can provide the Form B's for each of you if they know each of you well.

4. Canonical Form

When either the bride or the groom is not a baptized Catholic, it is necessary to obtain special permission or dispensation from the Diocesan Marriage Tribunal before a marriage may take place. The deacon preparing you will explain this, and assist in obtaining whatever is necessary. A copy is attached.

5. Marriage License

You must have a California Marriage License. You can apply for the marriage license at the Sacramento County Recorder's Office within ninety (90) days before your wedding. It expires if older than 90 days before your wedding.

Diocesan Marriage Preparation Programs

You must complete one of the following four marriage preparation programs:

- a. **Catholic Engaged Encounter Weekend**: This is a beautiful weekend specifically designed to give engaged couples an opportunity to dialogue honestly about their lives together; their strengths, weaknesses, desires, ambitions, goals; their attitude about money, sex, children, family; and their role in the Church and society. Please refer to the Sacramento Catholic Engaged Encounter web site at: www.sacee.org.
- b. **Cathedral Marriage Preparation Program**: The Cathedral offers a six-week marriage preparation program. Every week is created so you may discuss honestly with each other your strengths and unifying attributes. Please contact Janet and Omar Bardales at: matrimonyprep@att.net; and 916-427-9160
- c. **On-Line Marriage Preparation Program**: This is an excellent interactive on-line marriage preparation program recommended by the Sacramento Diocese. Please go to: www.catholicmarriageprep.com out of the Diocese of Colorado Springs.

Parking

The Cathedral does not have a parking lot, but there are three public parking lots close by. They all charge parking fees.

1. City parking lot on 10th and L Street, with entrance on 10th Street.
2. City parking lot on 11th Street between I Street and J Street.

Bride's Room

A room is available in the Lower Level of the Cathedral 30 minutes before the wedding for the dressing convenience of the bride and her bridesmaids. Please call Titi Kila, the Wedding Coordinator, at (916) 444-3071 Ext 13, if you plan to use this room. Also, please tell your wedding coordinator at the rehearsal if you plan to use this room.

Photography

Photographs may be taken during the ceremony. Photographs are usually not permitted in the Cathedral PRIOR to the ceremony due to a conflict with the prior wedding. Prior to the ceremony, photographs may be taken outside. You may take pictures AFTER the ceremony inside the Cathedral if time permits. For the entrance procession, your photographer or videographer may stand at the side of the aisle or in the choir loft. No photographer or videographer is allowed on the steps surrounding the altar which is marked red on the diagram, since this area is the Sacred Sanctuary. No flash photography or lights during the wedding ceremony.

MUSIC FOR YOUR WEDDING

Music for your wedding will be provided by musicians of Cathedral Music Ministry and preferred instrumentalists arranged through the Director of Music.

If your wedding is a Mass (eg. no communion), the Cathedral Organist and a Cathedral Cantor are required to sing for the Mass.

As this is a Cathedral, the mother church for the Diocese of Sacramento, all music for your wedding must be sacred and religious in nature. Instrumental music is taken from a Classical genre which is appropriate for the Cathedral worship space. Most popular or secular music is more appropriately reserved for the reception. Recorded music is not allowed at the Cathedral.

You will find a list of suggested music on pages 8-10. A Wedding Music Planner sheet is on page 11.

At least two months before your wedding, please mail or scan/e-mail your Wedding Music Planner sheet to the Director of Music at: Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament, 1017 11th Street, Sacramento, CA 95814; or rrallanka@cathedralsacramento.org. Should you need assistance in your music planning, the Director of Music is available to meet with you. You may call him at (916) 572-2161 (cell), to schedule an appointment or if you have any further questions.

All fees for Cathedral musicians are included in the church fee.

FLOWERS AND DECORATIONS

The beauty of the Cathedral, in many ways, makes flowers and decorations unnecessary, even superfluous, so, you can have a nice savings while still having a beautiful environment. Decorations should reflect simplicity and not interfere with the liturgy; therefore, flowers are not placed on the altar itself. Flowers may be placed off-center on the sides of the altar and/or in front of the ambo on the floor. Flowers and stands are not to exceed the height of the altar nor should they dominate the sanctuary area. The altar is 3 feet in height and the ambo is 3.5 feet in height. Please note, in regard to weddings held during Lent, it is contrary to the penitential spirit of the Season of Lent to have elaborate weddings or lavish decorations.

To preserve the Cathedral furniture, no staples, wire, or tape may be attached to the pews. Pew bows may be placed with rubber bands. There are 22 pews down the main aisle, with 21 full pews; the first pew is indented. The neck of the pew is 13.5 inches around, and it is 34" from the neck of the pew to the floor.

The Cathedral has six candles on the sides of the altar. These are the **ONLY** candles to be used.

The use of RICE, BIRDSEED, OR FLOWER PETALS, within or outside of the Cathedral, is considered a safety hazard and is **never allowed**. The Cathedral will be used by many people after the bridal party and wedding guests have departed.

Because the Cathedral is the mother church of the Diocese of Sacramento, many Diocesan events are held at the Cathedral. The environment (flowers, draping, etc.) and furniture (candles, font, ambo, etc.) in the church are not to be moved nor removed.

WEDDING FEES

We make every effort to keep fees very reasonable for the privilege of being married in the Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament. Many hours are involved, by well-trained experts, in making sure you have a beautiful wedding. To help with cost containment, the priest does not receive or expect any income from your wedding.

The fee for the Cathedral is \$2,500.00, payable in two payments. A \$1,000.00 deposit is due within two weeks of reserving a date for the Cathedral. The balance of \$1,500.00 is due three months prior to the wedding.

If you cancel your wedding more than 12 months before the scheduled date, you will receive a 100% refund of your deposit. If you cancel your wedding between six and 12 months prior to the wedding date, a cancellation fee of \$950.00 will be charged because it is unlikely that another wedding can be scheduled on your date. Any money paid-to- date in excess of \$950.00 will be returned to you. No refunds will be made for cancellations within six months of the wedding date. After two rescheduled dates, the deposit and date are forfeited.

WEDDING MUSIC REPERTOIRE

Prelude

Organists/Instrumentalists will play 15-20 minutes of Classical wedding repertoire. Unless there are specific requests, music for the prelude will be determined by the instrumentalists.

Procession of the Wedding Party

Air from "Water Music" by George Handel

Air on the G String by J.S. Bach

Canon in D by Johann Pachelbel

Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring by J.S. Bach *Sheep May*

Safely Graze by J.S. Bach *Trumpet Tune* by

Henry Purcell *Trumpet Voluntary* by John

Stanley *Rhosymedre* by R. V. Williams *Rigaudon*

by Georg Böhm

Procession of the Bride

Bridal March by Wagner

Canon in D by Pachelbel

Overture from "Fireworks Music" by Handel

Prince of Denmark's March by Stanley/Clarke (also appropriate for Recessional)

Prelude from "Te Deum" by Charpentier (also appropriate for Recessional)

Rigaudon by Campra (also appropriate for Recessional)

Responsorial Psalm (may also be sung bilingually and in Spanish)

Psalm 33: “The earth is full of the goodness of the Lord.”

Psalm 34: “Taste and see the goodness of the Lord.”

Psalm 103: “The Lord is kind and merciful.”

Psalm 128: “Blessed are those who fear the Lord.”

Psalm 148: “Let all praise the name of the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation/Alleluia

Celtic Alleluia by O’Carroll

Chant Alleluia (verse may be sung in Spanish)

Gospel Acclamation by Cesáreo Gabaráin (Spanish)

Lenten Gospel Acclamation by Owen Alstott (for weddings during the Lenten season)

Alabanza a ti by Andrea Johnson (for Spanish weddings during the Lenten season)

Preparation of the Gifts (Wedding Mass only)

The Call by R. V. Williams

The Gift of Love by Hal Hopson

I Have Loved You by Michael Joncas

The King of Love My Shepherd Is (tune: St. Columba)

Lord, You Have Come/Pescador De Hombres (may be sung bilingually and in Spanish; also appropriate for Communion)

Ubi Caritas by Bob Hurd (may be sung bilingually and in Spanish; also appropriate for Communion)

Eucharistic Prayer Acclamations (Wedding Mass only)

Chant Mass (English or Latin)

Mass of Creation by Marty Haugen

Heritage Mass by Owen Alstott

Misa Melódica by Alejandro Mejía (Spanish)

Communion (Wedding Mass only)

One Bread, One Body by John Foley, SJ (may be sung bilingually)

Gift of Finest Wheat by Omer Westendorf

I Received the Living God

I Am the Bread of Life by Suzanne Toolan, SM

Ubi Caritas by Bob Hurd (may be sung bilingually and in Spanish)

Taste and See by James Chepponis *Love One*

Another by James Chepponis *Pan de Vida* by

Bob Hurd (bilingual)

Amén. El Cuerpo de Cristo by John Shiavone (bilingual)

Panis Angelicus by Cesar Franck (sung in Latin)

Salmo 33: Gusten y Vean by Mary Frances Reza (sung bilingually or in Spanish)

Recessional

Allegro Maestoso from “Water Music” by George Handel

Concerto in G, BWV 592 by J.S. Bach

Fanfare by William Mathias

Finale from “Symphonie I” by Louis Vierne

Hymn to Joy by Ludwig van Beethoven *Rondeau* by

Jean-Joseph Mouret

Toccata from “Symphonie V” by Charles Marie Widor

Wedding March by Felix Mendelssohn

