# SAINT PATRICK CATHOLIC CHURCH

*A marriage that lasts a lifetime demands love, loyalty, forgiveness, and God's grace!*

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# SAINT PATRICK CATHOLIC CHURCH

## WEDDING BOOKLET

### Congratulations on your engagement!

We rejoice to see and to share in your love for each other and your commitment to prepare for a life lived together in this holy sacrament.

In the Sacrament of Matrimony, you will be given a special grace and will take on a new vocation in which you become an image of God's love for his people.

As you prepare to enter into this lifelong partnership, we look forward to assisting you in the task of forming the most loving Christian relationship possible, one in which you both can have confidence.

*A wedding is for a day.*
*Marriage is for Life!*

**2019**

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Dear Friends,

This information is offered to you in order to make your marriage preparations as complete as possible. Please take time to carefully read through this booklet. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Ivy Willing, the parish wedding coordinator at 813-839-5337 ext. 114.

## Date for Your Marriage

We recognize how important it is for couples to set their wedding date early enough to secure all the other reservations that are needed for such a special event. It is important for you to also realize that sufficient time must be set aside for your spiritual preparation for this Sacrament. Diocesan regulations require a minimum time of six months preparation, which is the norm at Saint Patrick.

In the event that there may be an impediment to the marriage, such as a prior marriage, or the desire of one of the parties to enter the Catholic Church, additional time may be required. This is something that will be discussed with the priest/deacon preparing you for marriage.

You are cautioned against making firm commitments with the reception facilities, caterers, photographers, etc., until after your initial meeting with a priest or deacon. Any individual (s) approaching the Church desiring to be married in the Church, must be a practicing Catholic, participating weekly in the sacramental life of the parish. If you are not registered at the parish but wish to celebrate the Sacrament of Matrimony at Saint Patrick please be prepared to supply a letter of delegation from your parish pastor.

## Time for Your Marriage

Because of our weekend liturgy schedule, all weddings are normally scheduled for Saturday. Morning ceremonies may be scheduled at 10:00am or 11:00am. Afternoon ceremonies may be scheduled at 1:00pm. No ceremonies are scheduled later than 1:00pm.

Weddings must begin at the specified time, since several weddings may be celebrated on the same day. Please be considerate in making your preparations.



# Wedding Ceremonies

### ORDER OF A TYPICAL WEDDING WITH NUPTIAL MASS

Entrance of honored family members (usually mothers)
Procession of Bridal party
Bride's Procession
Greeting and Introduction
Gloria
Opening Prayer
Liturgy of the Word
First Reading (choose a family member/friend to be reader)
Responsorial Psalm (cantor leads the singing)
Second Reading (choose a family member/friend to be reader)
Gospel (read by the priest/deacon)
Homily
Rite of Marriage
Consent (exchange of vows)
Blessing and exchange of rings
Blessing of Coins Arras - (Optional
Veil and Cord ceremony - Optional
Intercessions (choose a family member/friend to be lector)
Liturgy of the Eucharist
Eucharistic Prayer
Lord's Prayer (usually said at weddings rather than sung)
Nuptial Blessing
Communion
Concluding Rite
Blessing and Dismissal
Recessional

### ORDER OF A TYPICAL WEDDING WITHOUT NUPTIAL MASS

Entrance of honored family members (usually mothers)
Procession of Bridal party
Bride's Procession
Greeting and Introduction
Opening Prayer
Liturgy of the Word
First Reading (choose a family member/friend to be reader)
Responsorial Psalm cantor leads the singing
Second Reading (choose family member/friend to be reader)
Gospel (read by the priest/deacon)
Homily
Rite of Marriage
Consent (exchange of vows)
Blessing and exchange of rings
Blessing of Coins Arras - Optional
Veil and Cord ceremony - Optional
Intercessions (choose a family member/friend to be reader)
Concluding Rite
Nuptial Blessing
Lord's Prayer (usually said at weddings rather than sung)
Final Blessing
Recessional

# Wedding Fees

All wedding fees are due in the parish office two weeks before the date of the wedding. These fees include the services of our parish Director of Worship, parish Wedding Coordinator, Altar servers, and the use of the church.

***Congratulations, from the Priests and Parish Family of Saint Patrick Catholic Church***

**Our fee structure is as follows:**

| | |
|---|---|
| Parishioner | **$700.00** |
| Non-Parishioner | **$1,200.00** |
| Marriage Preparation with a couple choosing marry outside the parish in another Catholic Church | **$100.00** |
| Trumpeter from the Parish | **$95.00** |
| Cantor from the parish or any other parish musician | **$75.00** |

**The fees are paid as follows**:

Due at first meeting **$100.00**

Due at second meeting

| | |
|---|---|
| Parishioner | **$200.00** |
| Non Parishioner | **$250.00** |

Balance due two weeks before the wedding.
You may, of course, pay the entire fee at the first meeting.

**Note:** Your wedding date is not confirmed until the first $100 is paid.



# Marriage Preparation

## The Wedding Ceremony

There are two types of services in the Catholic Church: the Nuptial Mass and the Wedding Ceremony without a Mass. For two practicing Catholics, the Nuptial Mass is most appropriate. Punctuality, is important please be on time. Be aware that some things will hold you up, such as dress fitting and photography and greeting of friends and family.

## Documents

The following forms and documents are necessary for a marriage:

1. "Form A" - Prenuptial Investigation, this is a primary marriage information form.
2. "Form B" - This is the freedom to marry form. Two forms are required from each of the parties.
3. Certificate of Baptism– This must be a new document issued within six months of the wedding date. Notations of First Eucharist and Confirmation should be represented on the Baptism Certificate.
4. Marriage License – This is a civil requirement and must be given to the church wedding coordinator at the wedding rehearsal.

## Marriage Preparation Programs

The Parish has approved of the following programs:

1. Parish Marriage Preparation Program
2. Pre-Cana Conference
3. Journey to Matrimony

You may choose to participate in one of these programs. We recommend the Parish Marriage Preparation Program, if possible. We also administer the Pre-Marital Inventory (PMI) for all couples preparing to marry. The priest/deacon preparing you will also work with you in the preparation of your Liturgy and offer pastoral advice, as may be necessary.

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## The Rehearsal

A rehearsal of the actual wedding ceremony is usually held the night before the wedding, and it is expected that all members of the wedding party and the readers be present and on time.

As stated before, we have found that the practice of bringing the Marriage License to the rehearsal works best. The Best Man and Maid (Matron) of Honor are required to sign this document, together with the prieSaint The Parish Office will mail the document to the state offices for recording. You will receive a marriage certificate signed and sealed.

## Parish Marriage Coordinator

Our parish has an assigned staff member who will act as your parish marriage coordinator. She will arrange for your meeting with the priest/deacon, and keep you updated as deadlines approach.

The coordinator will be present at your wedding rehearsal and on the day of your wedding, to help with all the arrangements and assure that your wedding day is as stress-free as possible.

If you have hired an outside wedding coordinator, please note that this individual has no authority concerning the religious ceremony in the church.

## Photography/ Videography

Photography plans should be discussed with the parish Wedding Coordinator. We prefer that you take formal photographs before the liturgy. However, photographs may also be taken afterward. The church may be needed for other services after your wedding. Please check with the coordinator to be sure that you have allowed sufficient time for photographs if you choose to take them afterward. The church building is a sacred space, where people come to encounter God. During photography sessions, please maintain a spirit of reverence. Photography and Videography during the liturgy must be done without flash or floodlights, and in a way that is discreet. Photographers may not enter the sanctuary area during the liturgy. Please advise your photographer of these regulations.

**Parish Marriage Coordinator**
Ivy Willing
813-839-5337 ext.114
iwilling@stpatricktampa.org



# Wedding Guidelines

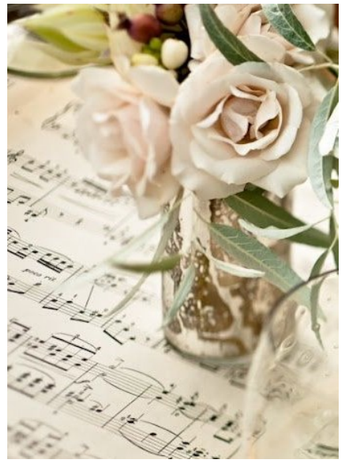
## Music

Saint Patrick Church has a staff member Marcia Seheult, Director of Worship who provides the parish with music for all church functions. It is permissible, however, to invite a guest soloist, either vocal or instrumental, to accompany. We require that any guest soloist attend one rehearsal with the music director.

Sacred Music for Sacred Ceremonies. Because weddings are a celebration of the Sacred Liturgy and matrimony is a sacrament of the church, only sacred music is sung/played during wedding liturgies at Saint Patrick Church. We reserve the right to refuse the use of certain music. All music selected must be approved by the parish Director of Worship.

It is important that the bride and groom meet with the Director of Worship at least two months before the wedding, so that music and readings may be agreed upon.

If you are planning to print a program for your wedding ceremony, it must be given to the parish Director of Worship two weeks before the wedding for proofing.



## Decorations

The focus of the marriage ceremony should be on the Christian, sacramental nature of marriage. As a sacramental celebration, the wedding is governed by the laws and customs of the Church, and should be marked by solemnity and simplicity.

You are responsible for flowers and decorations through the florist of your choice. The florist should plan to bring all necessary stands, containers, and equipment. However, it is not permitted to remove flowers from the altar after the ceremony.

Candelabras or additional candles are not allowed. Tossing rice, birdseed, bubbles or confetti are not permitted. You must designate someone in advance to clean up after the wedding liturgy.