

# WEDDING GUIDELINES

## PARISH WEDDING COORDINATOR:

Your parish wedding coordinator will assist and advise you with all plans related to the wedding ceremony or Mass, she will lead the rehearsal as well as be present the day of your wedding. Please be aware commercial wedding coordinators have no role at rehearsal or wedding. Pastor as well as staff and parish wedding coordinator work/communicate with engaged couple only. No exceptions.

Between 6-9 months before your wedding date, your parish wedding coordinator will contact you to schedule a rehearsal date and time. A rehearsal is mandatory.

The wedding coordinator fee is \$250.00.

## REQUIRED DOCUMENTS (for both bride and groom):

Baptismal Certificate (a current copy from parish you were baptized)

Letters of Freedom (attached)

First Communion Certificate (copy of original is okay)

Civil License (give to coordinator at rehearsal)

Confirmation Certificate (copy of original is okay)

Marriage Prep Program Certificate

Dispensation (if needed)

## MARRIAGE PREPARATION REQUIREMENTS:

There are Diocesan as well as parish preparation requirements that need to be completed before getting married. The priest who works with you on preparation will go over all requirements/paperwork.

## MUSIC FOR YOUR WEDDING:

Our Music Director or a parish cantor will work with you provide a list of talented soloists as well as appropriate music selections for your ceremony. Music during the ceremony needs to be religious in nature. It is strongly recommended that you have a cantor lead your guests in singing the Responsorial Psalm, Gospel Acclamation and Eucharistic Prayer Acclamation. Our cantors can sing any solos you select as well.

Please contact Lori Speciale as soon as possible to set up a meeting to choose your music as well as soloist/cantor. Lori will confirm fees for individual cantor, soloist, accompanist, music coordinator, etc. You can reach Lori at: [lori.speciale@gmail.com](mailto:lori.speciale@gmail.com)

## **FAQs:**

### **Can seasonal (liturgical) decorations be taken down, removed from church for my wedding?**

No. There are different seasons in the Church year that emphasize different aspects of God's saving mystery in our lives. Please be aware that during Advent there is purple, and pink used, Lent purple is used (no flowers may be brought in at this time as well, bridal party flowers are okay), white is used during Easter season and Pentecost there is red, orange and yellow used.

### **Can we light a unity candle during our ceremony?**

No. The "unity candle" is a commercial product of which has no liturgical meaning in our Church. For this reason, it is not included in the wedding celebrations here at St. Catherine of Siena Church.

### **What are the costs involved with having our wedding at St. Catherine of Siena Church?**

Church - \$1,500.00

Wedding Coordinator - \$250.00

Music – total is determined when you meet with Lori Speciale (see Music For Your Wedding section) cost range from \$250.00 - \$600.00

### **Flowers?**

During all seasons (except for Lent), floral arrangements can be placed at the altar. Only ribbon (with no flowers/greenery can be tied to pews). **Please read the attached "Florist Guidelines" for specific measurements and placement of arrangements.**

Flower petals, bubbles, confetti, or rice may not be thrown nor dropped inside or on the church grounds at any time.

Traditionally, floral arrangements are left at the church. If, however, you are taking flowers with you, please be sure they are removed immediately after your ceremony.

**Please read over then give the attached "Florist Guidelines" to your florist.**

**FAQs (continued):**

**Photographer/Videographer?**

Guidelines we ask you to follow are in place to ensure you have photographs that capture the moment, while more importantly keeping the focus on the sacrament taking place. Please be aware photos before or after your wedding are not allowed inside the church. You can ask your photographer to take advantage of our beautiful liturgical garden (before or for 30 minutes after ceremony) as well as the courtyards.

**Please read over the attached “Photographer/Videographer Guidelines” then give to your photographer.**

**NOT ALLOWED:**

Alcoholic beverages are not permitted on the grounds, at any time.