

St. John the Baptist Catholic Church Wedding Policy

For Registered St. John's Parishioners

I. Preparation

The beautiful and holy sacrament of marriage requires preparation:

- A. Membership in St. John's Parish: individually, or as a member of a family that is registered here
- B. FOCCUS Inventory
- C. Archdiocese Marriage Preparation Weekend (Fri. evening – Saturday)
- D. 3 to 5 meetings with the priest or deacon who will preside at the wedding ceremony. This includes completing the required sacramental documentation.
- E. Meeting with Mentoring Couples.
- F. Wedding rehearsal.
- G. Couples must submit civil marriage documents to parish office two weeks prior to the wedding date so they may be filled out accurately; The full names of both witnesses must be provided.
- H. Couples must submit a wedding program for review to the parish office (prior to printing), at least 1 month before the wedding.

II. Fees

- A. **Church**.....\$325.00
(with no prep meetings with Father (only ceremony) = \$200) Check for the church fee must be submitted to the parish office at least two weeks before the wedding. (Gathering Place will be used in a limited way on the day of the wedding as a waiting area for family/bridal party - food, drink, photo only). Lower Gathering Place has two rooms which will be used for bridal party preparation. Gathering Place rental for receptions or rehearsal dinner must be arranged through the business office, 952-474-8868.
- B. **Wedding Coordinator**\$150.00
Required - check should be made out directly to Chris Streeter and submitted to the Parish Office at least 2 weeks before the wedding.
- C. **Music Consult**.....\$50.00
Required - includes planning and preparation of wedding with Kari Hoeft, Director of Music & Liturgy or musician designated by St. John's. Outside musicians (organist/pianist) will be allowed upon approval. Secular music is not permitted.
 - Organist/pianist**..... \$200.00
 - Cantor or Soloist**..... \$200.00Additional \$50.00 if separate rehearsal with accompanist is needed.

III. Photography

Discuss with the Wedding Coordinator. If there are no other functions, you would normally be able to use the church for a two-hour photo shoot prior to the wedding, or immediately following providing Church is vacated before 3:30pm.

Additional Notes of Requirement

1. Interfaith marriages in this diocese are required to be without the Mass. For Catholic weddings with Mass, readers of the Scriptures at a wedding Mass are to be practicing Catholics. Readers at interfaith marriages must be Christian.
2. No food or beverages are to be available, brought into or consumed in the church.
3. The wedding fee is not related to any donation or stipend the family may wish to give to the Presider. The fee includes use of the church for the wedding Mass or liturgy and use of the church and immediate grounds for photographs before, and for a limited time, after the wedding Mass/Liturgy; the Gathering Place lower level rooms and bathrooms, and use of the Gathering Place main area prior to the wedding for the family and wedding party to congregate during pictures. This fee does not include use of any other areas, i.e. Gathering Place kitchen.
4. If any food is being brought for the wedding party, it must remain in the lower level dressing rooms or in the Gathering Place main area. *Absolutely no food or drink is permitted in the church for any reason.* Food must be prepared prior to being brought and should be contained in coolers brought by the wedding party. If the Gathering Place is being used for any reason it is the wedding party's responsibility that it be cleaned. If it is not cleaned, the fee for additional custodial will be billed to the family. *There will be no alcoholic beverages of any kind allowed under this agreement.* The Mass is a sacred event, and in order to participate, there should be no use of alcohol prior to Mass.

Notes

- Aisle Runner: If ordering an aisle runner, the overall length from sanctuary step to back is: 90 feet. If flower petals are used they must remain on the runner and must be cleaned up by wedding party directly after the ceremony.
- Candles: St. John's does not use a Unity Candle. In addition, NO candles may be placed on the altar or in the aisles. All decorations must be removed prior to church use, e.g. prior to Saturday confessions at 3:30 P.M.
- Flowers: Please speak with the wedding coordinator regarding floral arrangements in the sanctuary. The front of the altar should not be blocked, but arrangements are permitted on the sides of the altar.