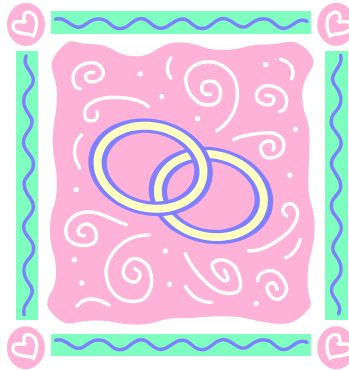


## **St. Bernard of Clairvaux Parish**

# **PARISH**

# **WEDDING GUIDE**



Revised: October 16, 2015

## **CONGRATULATIONS**

You have reached a point in your lives where you wish to commit yourselves to each other before God in the sacred bond of matrimony. We rejoice with you and want your wedding day to be truly special, the foundation of your life together.

In preparation for this special occasion, we have prepared this brochure to answer some common questions.

## **SEASONS, DAYS AND TIMES FOR WEDDINGS**

Marriage may be celebrated throughout the year. However, because Lent is a penitential season, a wedding should not be scheduled for a time between Ash Wednesday and Easter Sunday except for a serious reason, e.g. the serious illness of a parent.

Normally, weddings at the parish are scheduled for the following days and times: Friday evening at 6:00 pm; Saturday at 1:00 pm or at 6:00 pm due to our weekend Mass schedule. The day and time for the wedding rehearsal is arranged with the pastor assisting you in marriage preparation.

## MUSIC

Three months, at the minimum, before your wedding, you should contact Mary Jo Chavez, our music director, to discuss the music and coordinate singers for your wedding. She can be reached by e-mail at [mjchavez@fuse.net](mailto:mjchavez@fuse.net) or by calling the rectory at 353-4207 (ext. 8).

The couple will provide sheet music for special music selections not available at the Church.

***Music can only be of a sacred nature (not secular music). All music must be approved by the music director and the pastor.***

## FLOWERS, DECORATIONS AND ASSORTED ITEMS

The placing of flowers in the sanctuary and on the end of the pews is permitted. More elaborate displays should be approved by the pastor. No flowers should be placed on top of the altar. Church may be decorated after 5:00 pm.

Couples who want to light a unity candle (optional) must supply the candle themselves.

No candles or candelabra are to be used in the center aisle.

Due to the tripping hazard involved, aisle runners are not permitted.

## PHOTOGRAPHY AND VIDEOGRAPHY

Photographing and videotaping the ceremony is permitted. However, so that the photographer and videographer not be a distraction to the congregation or detract from the reverence appropriate to a wedding liturgy, we request that you familiarize them with the following:

1. No flash photography during the Mass or ceremony.
2. Photographers are not permitted to be in the sanctuary area during the Mass or ceremony.
3. Photographers must exercise discretion both in the number of photos taken and in where they place themselves to take photos. ***Photos are not permitted during the homily or the period following the Presentation of the Gifts through the distribution of Communion.*** Also, photographers must not delay the wedding from starting at the scheduled time.
4. Videographers are to take a stationary position outside the sanctuary (the altar area). ***Additional lighting is not permitted without the approval of the pastor.***

## Fees

**(All fees are due no later than 2 months prior to the wedding date.)**

### Church Fee

Parishioners

More than 16 months 200.00  
12 – 16 months 500.00

Out of Parish 1,000.00

(Couple must arrange for Catholic priest or deacon of their choice to prepare the couple and preside at the wedding.)

**Music Director** (Payment of fees should be made payable to the Music Director and are subject to the above referenced time frame.)

Mass 150.00 Wedding Outside of Mass 125.00

Mandatory Consultation Fee 50.00  
(Payable only if couple chooses to use an outside organist)

**Server stipend** (per server) 10.00  
(Payable to servers at ceremony)

**Priest stipend (Stole Fee)** 100.00

### Servers

The couple is responsible for providing servers. If you need assistance, please contact the rectory.

## Ceremony

Ceremonies can be held on Friday evenings at 6:00; Saturday ceremonies must be held at 1:00 pm or at 6:00 pm. **This is not negotiable.**

The following weekends are not available for weddings:

Memorial Day

Labor Day

Festival Weekend

Last four weekends in Lent

Easter weekend

## Final Words

Remember, this is a time for celebration at a "Sacred" place where Jesus is present in the Blessed Sacrament. Please, no loud talking, inappropriate dress, food, gum chewing or drinking (including alcoholic beverages) while in the church. Also, please remember to keep children in your care at all times so they are not running into the sanctuary. This includes the time while decorating and during the rehearsal.

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