

Photography and Videography Tips



We welcome the photographer that you have selected to record your wedding ritual. Please share these guidelines with your photographer.

- ✓ We expect you to apply your professional skills with as little disturbance to the ceremony as possible. Respect the sacred nature of the church.
- ✓ Dress appropriately.
- ✓ Photography taken before the ceremony may begin when the couple has the church reserved and should end at least 30 minutes prior to the wedding.
- ✓ If the church lights are not turned on when you arrive, you may ask someone where they are or you may turn them on yourself. The main light panel is located on the wall behind the altar on the south side next to the sacristy doors. Number 3 is the bright setting.
- ✓ If you need additional air conditioner or heat please ask someone to adjust it.
- ✓ Sometimes the tabernacle behind the altar can cause a glare. When taking photos before the ceremony, there are wooden doors in front of the small gold door that can be closed to reduce glare. The doors should be opened again before the ceremony.
- ✓ Photography during the actual wedding ritual is allowed provided that it be done in a discreet manner.
- ✓ There should be no flash photography from the moment after the bride walks in until the bride and groom walk out.
- ✓ Once the procession has started it should not stop for photos.
- ✓ During the ceremony the photographer should not be seen up front by anyone in the congregation. You should remain near the back of church.
- ✓ The balcony is often a good non-obtrusive place to take pictures. If the door to the balcony is locked, ask for the key.
- ✓ If the couple would like a picture with the priest, this should be the first photograph immediately after the wedding.
- ✓ Articles and church furnishings should not be moved unless approved by the priest.
- ✓ Leave the church as you found it.
- ✓ You are welcome to call and talk with presider or a staff member with any questions before the date of the wedding.

Videography during the wedding ritual is available through the Church Office. We have built in cameras that provide a wonderful view of the ceremony. Please let the priest know if you would like a video/DVD of your ceremony and we will arrange it. There is a fee for this service. It will be discussed at the time of arrangement.

If you will be providing your own videographer, one video camera may be set on a tripod to record the service as long as it does not obstruct the ceremony. It may be manned by the videographer but is not to be moved from its tripod position. Verify with the priest as to the positioning he is comfortable with.



Floral Guidelines and Environment Tips



Floral arrangements have long been a part of the worship environment in the Catholic Church and are often used during Sunday worship. The wedding is a sacramental religious ceremony, which should guide the placement of flowers. Please share these guidelines with your florist or the person who will be decorating the church for your wedding.

- ✓ The number and placement of flowers should not interfere with the liturgical ceremony. Flowers should not obstruct the view of the altar or the ambo.
- ✓ We find that often one large arrangement in front of the altar or near the ambo is most effective.
- ✓ Pew decorations should not block entrance to the pews and may not be affixed with tape.
- ✓ **The liturgical environment generally remains as is. The altar, pulpit and presider's chair are not to be moved.**
- ✓ At certain times of the year, the Church is decorated to coincide with specific themes and liturgical seasons. These decorations cannot be removed, and the wedding party will work around them. This often occurs around Advent, Christmas, Lent and Easter.
- ✓ If any additional candles are used they must be enclosed within hurricane lamps.
- ✓ A wedding unity candle, though not necessarily part of the ritual of marriage, is to be provided by the wedding couple.
- ✓ **If an "aisle runner" is to be used, the couple makes arrangements to obtain one. It must be removed directly after the ceremony.**
- ✓ The use of rice, confetti, rose petals, birdseed, etc. is not allowed. These items can be very hazardous, and they are difficult to clean up. Bubbles are allowed outside only.
- ✓ Do not tape anything to the doors.
- ✓ Do not leave your empty boxes, trash, or decorations outside or around the church. If you are using the parish center there are large trash cans in the kitchen.
- ✓ Note that there are no custodial services between services and the pews and the rest of the church should be left in good condition

Thank you for your consideration.

