

WEDDING POLICY AT ST. JOHN CHURCH

Weddings at St. John Church are to be celebrated as a religious ceremony, therefore, it is important that what is done, the music to be chosen, and reading selected is in keeping with the religious celebration of this sacrament. If your decision is to have your wedding at St. John Church, then you must be willing to abide by the policy set forth by the Pastor.

SEMINAR

You are required by the Bishop to make a marriage preparation seminar (sponsor couple, pre-cana, engaged discovery) at least 3 months before the wedding.

BAPTISMAL RECORD

Catholics are to obtain an updated copy of their baptismal record and forward same to priest. Record must be made within one (1) year of wedding. Non-Catholics are to bring similar record of their baptism.

CIVIL LICENSE

License is to be brought to the wedding rehearsal.

SCHEDULING OF WEDDING

Weddings may be scheduled (only after couple is interviewed by a priest) on Saturday between 11:00 AM and 1:00 PM or Saturday evening at 6:00 PM.

REHEARSAL

Schedule for the day before. Bring to rehearsal your civil license and fees for the church, priest.

MUSIC

The organist for all weddings is to be St. John Church Organist and Director of Music/Liturgy. The Director of Music can be reached at the parish office (330-454-8044). The couple is to contact the organist concerning the date and time of the wedding and the music to be used. The Diocesan Guidelines on Wedding Music is to be used. The parish organist has the final word on the parish guidelines for music. If soloist (s) is desired, St. John Church will furnish them. Our parish has competent, professional soloists who will be happy to sing at your wedding. Other musicians (Brass, Strings, harp, etc) will be secured by the parish organist (from the Canton & Akron Symphony Orchestras). These is an additional fee for these musicians.

DECORATIONS

Decorations are provided by the couple. Flowers may be placed on the high altar or at the sanctuary steps, on the sides. The center aisle of the church is 100 feet long. Your florist can provide you with an aisle runner.

FLORIST

It is the responsibility of the couple to inform the florist of the following things:

- No tape may be used that leaves a sticky residue on pews or floor.
- Candles placed on ends of pews must have protection to prevent scratching of wood and glass globes carefully secured.
- NO candelabra may be put in the sanctuary (area about the altar), if you wish more candles, we will light the multi-branched candelabra on either side of the sanctuary entrance (\$10.00).

SERVERS

If you want servers, notify us well in advance (there is a stipend).

DRESSING ROOM

The McKinley Avenue vestibule and restrooms are used for the purpose of dressing. Keep doors (to McKinley Avenue) locked by lowering bar inside doors. Your family is responsible for cleaning this area after the wedding (plastic bags, hangers, make-up, etc.). All personal items are to be removed immediately so the area can be used again as an entrance.

PHOTOGRAPHER

Pictures may be taken live during the wedding. The photographer is not to interrupt the flow of the ceremony/Mass. Neither the photographer or videographer are allowed in the Organ Loft. Videotaping is permissible (no bright lights). Family pictures may be taken for 30 minutes only after the wedding. No furniture should be moved.

OPTIONS AT THE END OF WEDDING

- Pictures should be taken immediately after the ceremony. There is a 30 minute time limit.
- Receiving lines are more appropriate at the reception hall because of limitation of time in the church. A receiving line is discouraged after the ceremony, in the church.
- Because of directives from our insurance company, the throwing of rice or bird seed is absolutely prohibited. Balloons may be released outside but are not permitted inside the Church or stored in Church.
- The family is responsible for cleaning up aisle runner, flower petals, etc. immediately after the ceremony.

FEES TO BE PAID AT REHEARSAL

Parish Priest	\$100
*Church Rental	\$275
Organist	determined by organist
Cantor	\$ 85
Servers	\$10 each

*Applies to all who do not have an active, contributing membership of the immediate family registered and supporting St. John Church.

A 20% deposit on Church Rental (non-refundable) at the time of reservation of wedding date.

If you have any questions, please feel free to call the parish office (330-454-8044) during regular office hours.