

*Congratulations on your upcoming wedding and on your decision to make a commitment to each other through the sacrament of marriage.*

*The following guidelines will assist in your preparation for marriage, as well as the celebration of the wedding day itself.*

## **PREPARATION**

Call Parish Office (831) 424-1959 to schedule an appointment with priest or deacon to begin the marriage preparation process.

### **1. First (initial) meeting with priest or deacon**

#### **Required documents:**

- Pre-Nuptial Inquiry Investigation** for both the bride and the groom to be completed only by the priest or deacon.
- Freedom to Marry Forms.** Two witnesses for each bride and groom will be asked to testify and sign that you are free to marry. Witnesses must attest and sign in the presence of the priest or deacon.
- Dispensation or special permission form,** if applicable. It is used in case of previous marriage(s), mixed religion, etc. Must be completed with the priest or deacon.
- Baptismal certificates** for the bride and groom. It must be recently issued by the Church of baptism (no more than 6 months old)
- First Communion and Confirmation certificates**
- California State Marriage License.** Obtain from the County Clerk.
- Marriage Certificate,** if already in a civil marriage and seeking Church convalidation.

#### **Required formation/instruction:**

- Engaged Encounter Retreat or Tarde Para Novios.** Certificate of Completion issued upon completion.
- Prepare/Enrich online assessment.** Required to meet with a Prepare/Enrich facilitator. Certificate of Completion issued upon completion.

### **2. Second meeting with priest or deacon. Status and follow-up on**

- required documentation and
- marriage formation/instruction

### **3. Final meeting with priest or deacon.**

- Ensuring that all documentation have been received and are in file prior to marriage
- Explaining the elements of the Wedding Liturgy and Marriage Rite
- Rehearsal to be scheduled

It is the couple's obligation to be sure that all paperwork is received by the priest or deacon at least 30 days prior to the ceremony. By civil and canon law we need the required documents prior to any marriage.

## **CUSTOMARY FEES**

**\$100.00 non-refundable deposit** is due before a day may be reserved on the calendar.

**\$600.00 Parishioner**

**\$800.00 Non-parishioner**

covers the cost of marriage preparation, rehearsal and ceremony

**\$500.00 – Marriage Preparation only,** if planning to marry in a different church

**\$250.00 –** Wedding anniversary celebration

Please pay fees during business hours only, Monday through Friday 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. (except on Wed, when open 1:00p.m.-5:00p.m. only). Checks for the church should be made payable to Sacred Heart Church. Church fees must be paid in full 1 month before the Wedding Day.

You are welcome to give a stipend to the presiding priest. It is not expected or required.

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#### **Additional fees for:**

- **Musicians**
- **Engaged Encounter**
- **Tarde Para Novios**
- **Prepare/ Enrich Assessment Online**

**Fees are set by the organization or individual and paid directly to them. If available, refer to the information sheet or contact the organization or individual for more information.**

## MUSIC

To plan music for your English ceremony, please call Jimmy Mazzuca at (831)757-5034; Spanish ceremony see the list for approved musicians. Please contact each musician for individual availability, musical style, etc. This should be done at least two months in advance. It is your responsibility to pay the musician(s) of your choice.

### **WEDDING DAY RULES AT SACRED HEART**

(See separate guideline sheets for further information)

#### **Photographs & Videos**

Only one **professional** photographer (No flash pictures are allowed except during the entrance procession and during the recession at the end of the ceremony). No passing in front or along the center aisle during the ceremony.

One person videotaping inconspicuously (no special lights, no roll-around equipment). No passing in front of or along the center aisle during the ceremony.

#### **Flowers & Decorations**

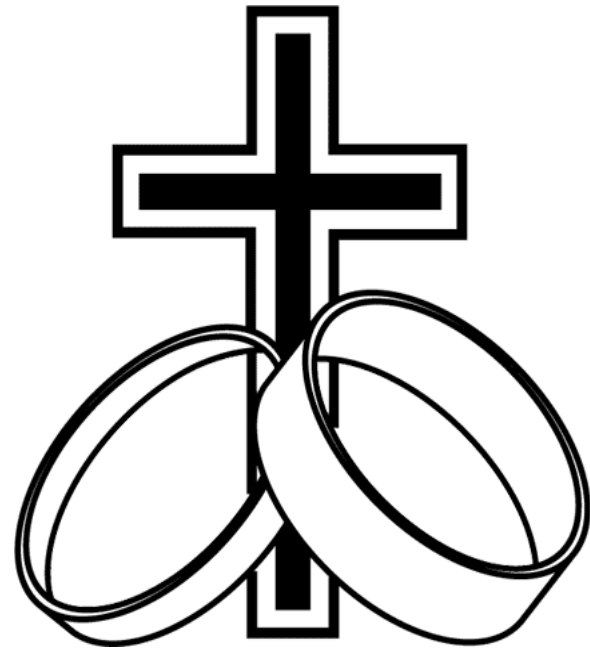
For good order, we ask that there be no aisle runners; no objects (e.g. rice, confetti, birdseed) thrown in or around the church; and no changing of the basic church environment.

We allow and encourage two (2) large bouquets of flowers, 1 each at the altar and ambo (pulpit). All flowers used in the sanctuary are left there as a thanksgiving offering to God.

Pew bows or flowers should be secured to the pews with rubber bands or covered floral wire only, no tape. Remove immediately after the ceremony.

*Jesus performed his first miraculous sign at the wedding feast of Cana.  
May He be a guest at your wedding and remain in your marriage always.*

**SACRED HEART CHURCH  
22 STONE STREET  
SALINAS, CA 93901  
(831) 424-1959**



**PREPARING FOR  
MARRIAGE**