

# Wedding Information & Guidelines

## Most Holy Name of Jesus Parish & St. Anthony Chapel

*(Revised as July 1, 2012)*

Congratulations on your engagement! Our parish staff is most happy to assist you as you prepare for Christian Marriage. This information should be helpful to you as you begin the process of preparation for the Sacrament of Marriage and the celebration of the Wedding Liturgy. Please read these guidelines, as they address the most frequently asked questions.

- **Ceremony vs. Mass:** The ordinary way a catholic celebrates their marriage is within a wedding mass. When one of the partners is not a catholic, they may choose to have a marriage ceremony. In a marriage ceremony, the readings are done and vows are exchanged. The Eucharistic prayers are omitted.
- **Church Fees:** For a couple that are parishioners, the use of the church is \$300. For non-parishioners, the use of the church is \$500. A non-refundable \$50 deposit is required to hold a date in the marriage book. All remaining balances must be paid at least one month prior to the wedding ceremony. Please note that this fee does not include the organist, soloist, or altar server. Organist and soloist fees are specific to the individuals that you choose. A \$10 stipend is to be given to the server(s). You are also expected to give a gift to the priest / deacon who directs your rehearsal and administrates the marriage ceremony for you. (Suggested donation is \$100). For tax deduction purposes, one check may be written out for all of the fees to Most Holy Name Parish or St. Anthony Chapel. It will be divided accordingly to those conducting your ceremony.
- **Necessary Papers:** Information papers are filled out with the priest / deacon marrying you. You must obtain a recent copy of your baptismal record (dated no earlier then six months prior to your marriage day).
- **Marriage License:** As your marriage date approaches, you must apply through the County Marriage License Bureau for your license. For information, call 412-350-4230, the Marriage License Bureau, City-County Bldg. It is not open on Saturdays. The Church does not supply the license.
- **Music:** You may call one of our organists for your wedding ceremony. If they are not from this parish, they should check with the priest / deacon concerning the music used. Contact the organist and make an appointment a few months before your wedding date and discuss their fee. Please note that the organist fee is separate from the fees for the use of the church.

**Carol Spehar: 412-321-1686**

- **Flowers and Decorations:** You must contact the Florist of your choice for your wedding flowers. You may place floral arrangements beside the main altar. Once you place flowers at the altar, we ask you to leave them there for weekend masses. Flowers around the Altar should be live arrangements. You may take a flower or a bouquet to the Blessed Virgin's Shrine. Balloons may be used after the mass outside of church, but please do not bring them to the body of the church, because it is difficult to get them down. Bows can be used, but should be attached with rubber-bands and not tape or wire. **Our aisle is 113 ft. in length.** You must make your own arrangements for the white crash. Because of melting wax and fire hazards, lit candles cannot be on the pews going up the aisle. Rice or birdseed cannot be thrown, nor can anything else which could cause someone to slip and fall on the front steps of the church. You may create your own special Marriage Banner for the Ceremony. There are no parish maintenance persons on duty for weddings, so you must make sure that the cry room and the church vestibule are cleaned up from flower boxes and other disposables. Please designate someone to check all rooms in church building, as items often get left behind.
- **Wedding Rehearsal:** The rehearsal usually takes place the evening before the wedding, but other arrangements can be made. All those having any role in the wedding ceremony should be present. The wedding party as well as readers or gift bearers and servers not familiar to Most Holy Name Church.