

TOGETHER
for LIFE *online* Catholic Wedding Planning

CHECKLIST

~ One Year or More before the Wedding ~

- Choose the church for your wedding. ___/___/_____

Notes:

Most Catholic parishes require that you become a member of the parish in order to get married in that church. Getting married in your parents' parish is a common exception, and other exceptions can be made by the parish priest or local bishop.

- Contact the parish priest to schedule your marriage interview. ___/___/_____

Notes:

Contact the parish priest where you would like to be married and set up an interview. Be prepared to answer a number of questions about your engagement and proposed marriage.

To prepare for the interview, read "Getting Married in the Catholic Church: FAQs" at [Together for Life Online](#).

~ Nine Months before the Wedding ~

- Select a date and time for your wedding. ___/___/_____

Notes:

Meet with the pastor or deacon in the parish where you will be married in order to select a date and a time for the wedding.

Nine Months before the Wedding (Continues on page 2)

~ Nine Months before the Wedding ~

(Continued)

- Contact the parish where you were baptized and have the Baptismal records, certificates of First Holy Communion and Confirmation, and Decrees of Nullity (if necessary) for the bride and/or groom sent to the church where you will be married. ___/___/_____
- Schedule marriage preparation meetings with your pastor, priest, or deacon who will preside over your wedding liturgy. ___/___/_____
- Sign up for your parish or diocesan marriage preparation retreat (pre-Cana, marriage encounter, etc). ___/___/_____
- Begin working on your guest list. ___/___/_____
- Book the location for the wedding reception. ___/___/_____

~ Six Months before the Wedding ~

- Select the readings and prayers for your wedding using the *Together for Life* booklet. ___/___/_____

Notes:

- You can write in your selections using the pages in the back of the book or complete an [*online selection form*](#) that can be emailed to your priest or deacon.
- Prayerfully consider which readings and prayers express your relationship with each other the best.
- Choose the people who will participate in your wedding: maid/matron of honor, best man, lectors, gift bearers, flower girls, etc.
- For additional information and suggestions for planning your Catholic wedding ceremony, explore the [*Understanding Your Catholic Wedding*](#) page at [*Together for Life Online*](#).

Six Months before the Wedding (Continues on page 3)

~ Six Months before the Wedding ~

(Continued)

- Send your Save-the-Date reminders. ___/___/_____
- Schedule a food tasting for your wedding reception. ___/___/_____
- Learn about *Catholic Natural Family Planning methods* at *Together for Life Online*. ___/___/_____

~ Three Months before the Wedding ~

- Meet with the parish wedding coordinator to discuss church decorations, seating arrangements, wedding day pictures, and other important details. ___/___/_____
- Meet with the musical director to discuss wedding songs and the worship aid (wedding program). ___/___/_____

Notes:

To prepare for this meeting, read *Choosing Your Catholic Wedding Music* at *Together for Life Online*.

- Book a location for the rehearsal dinner. ___/___/_____
- Attend a parish or diocesan marriage retreat/encounter. ___/___/_____
- Make sure you have met all the parish or diocesan requirements for marriage (meetings, retreats, paperwork, etc.). ___/___/_____

~ Two Months before the Wedding ~

- Mail wedding invitations. ___/___/_____

Two Months before the Wedding (Continues on page 4)

~ Two Months before the Wedding ~

(Continued)

- Finalize the details of the wedding liturgy. ___/___/_____
- Schedule a time for the wedding rehearsal with the parish wedding coordinator. ___/___/_____

~ Two to Four Weeks before the Wedding ~

- Meet with the parish priest or deacon to finalize wedding plans. ___/___/_____
- Design and order the worship aids (programs) for your wedding ceremony. ___/___/_____
- Receive RSVPs and finalize the guest list. ___/___/_____
- Send rehearsal and rehearsal dinner invitations. ___/___/_____
- Get a marriage license from the court house of the county in which you will be married. ___/___/_____

~ One Week before the Wedding ~

- Final meeting with the parish wedding coordinator and music director. ___/___/_____
- Schedule a time to participate in the sacrament of Reconciliation as you prepare for the sacrament of Matrimony. ___/___/_____
- Finalize seating arrangements for the wedding reception. ___/___/_____
- Make sure everyone is on time for the wedding rehearsal. ___/___/_____

Day before the Wedding (On page 5)

~ Day before the Wedding ~

- Bring your marriage license and stipends for the priest and musicians to the rehearsal.
- Enjoy your time at the rehearsal dinner.

~ Day of the Wedding ~

- Bring the rings to the church.
- Prayerfully prepare to make your wedding vows.

Notes:

Refrain from alcoholic beverages before the wedding (and make sure your witnesses, the maid/matron of honor and best man, refrain as well) to ensure the validity of the sacrament.

Enjoy this very special day!