

Guidelines for Weddings

held at

St. Stephen the Martyr

Catholic Church

5373 Wydella Rd.

Lilburn, GA 30047



January 2018

To the Bride and Groom:

This booklet is compiled to assist you in planning your marriage at St. Stephen the Martyr. The topics covered are drawn from questions asked by many couples over the years.

Your wedding day should be one of the most memorable of your life. To assure this, all arrangements should be as complete and precise as possible. Remember also, that you are not just planning a wedding, you are also preparing for a sacrament. While it is understandable that you will devote appropriate attention to the details of the ceremony, your primary focus should be on the sacramental state you are entering. With this detailed outline to help you begin planning your wedding, you should be able to maintain a balance in the preparation so that the practical details, important as they are, do not become all absorbing.

We ask that you thoroughly familiarize yourself with the wedding policies and procedures at St. Stephen the Martyr Parish as outlined in this booklet. We will be happy to answer any questions or concerns you may have. To indicate your understanding and acceptance of the guidelines, we ask that both the prospective bride and groom sign and return the Wedding Party Acknowledgement Form at the back of the booklet.

The clergy and staff at St. Stephen the Martyr wish you every blessing for your married life together. We will strive to help you begin that life well and happily.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

*Reverend Brian Lorei
Pastor*

Celebrating the Sacrament of Marriage in the Catholic Church

I. General Requirements for Marriage in the Catholic Church

The minimum requirement for marriage preparation is six months in advance of the desired date.

Freedom to Marry

Church law requires that both of you must be free to marry, that is, neither one was married before. If either of you were married before, either a civil or common-law marriage, and the former spouse is still living, you will need to obtain a declaration of nullity (annulment) on the marriage from the Metropolitan Tribunal of the Archdiocese of Atlanta, if you do not already have such a decree. Please contact a priest to discuss this. Under no circumstances can a date be set for the ceremony, even tentatively, until the Tribunal process is completed and a final decree is issued.

Interfaith Marriage

In an interfaith marriage, the Catholic party makes a promise to maintain his or her faith and do all in his or her power to ensure that any children born of the union will be raised in the Catholic faith. The party who is not Catholic makes no promises but is made aware of the promise by the Catholic party.

In an interfaith marriage, at St. Stephen the Martyr, the Minister of the non-Catholic party may be invited to participate in the ceremony. The type of participation will depend on whether or not the marriage will be celebrated within a Mass. Having a Mass will involve participating in the readings and/or giving a blessing. Church law does not permit the Priest and Minister jointly to ask for and receive the vows, nor does it permit a double recitation of the vows.

By Church law, all weddings are to be celebrated in the Church. Special consideration may be given to marriages between a Catholic and a non-Christian. All such requests must be supported by serious reasons explaining why the exception is necessary and must be approved by the Pastor. If the Pastor approves, then a formal dispensation/permission must be requested through the Metropolitan Tribunal of the Archdiocese of Atlanta by the clergy with whom you are preparing. Such permission, if granted, affects only the actual ceremony. You must still comply with the other provisions of Church law.

II. ARRANGING THE CEREMONY

A. Reserving the date of the marriage

To reserve a date and time for your marriage you must first contact a priest or deacon of the parish. Only a priest or deacon of the parish may authorize reservation of the date and time on the parish calendar. **Do not schedule a banquet hall until you personally meet with the priest or deacon who will perform the marriage ritual.**

All reservations are made on a first come, first served basis. The minimum time needed for the work of preparing for this new way of life is six months. It is recommended that you contact the priest or deacon at St. Stephen the Martyr 8 -12 months before the proposed ceremony, to make sure that all preparation is completed in a timely manner. Contact information for the priest and deacons of St. Stephen can be obtained on the web-site (www.sstmcc.org) or by calling the parish secretary at the main number (770-381-7488). Please see Section VII about the established fees and the expected time of payment.

B. Officiant

You must personally contact the priest or deacon you wish to officiate at your wedding. You are free to select any of the clergy assigned to St. Stephen the Martyr.

If you wish a priest or deacon from outside the parish to officiate, you must first contact him and ask that he, in turn, contact the parish office. This cleric will need to confirm in writing that he is willing to officiate and that he is willing to complete the necessary pre-marital instructions and paperwork required by Church law, and abide by all church policies and procedures for weddings. Permission for the visiting cleric to assist at the celebration of a marriage at St. Stephen the Martyr will be given as long as the paperwork is sent to St. Stephen the Martyr no later than one month prior to the wedding. Visiting clergy are expected to follow the protocols of St. Stephen the Martyr and to cooperate with our wedding coordinators.

If he is not a priest or deacon within the Archdiocese of Atlanta, he is required to apply for faculties through St. Stephen the Martyr within 60 days of the wedding date, and furnish a copy of the letter granting those faculties.

For the visiting clergy, delegation will be granted in writing once we have received a completed marriage paperwork packet from him, and if applicable, the letter granting faculties. We ask that the marriage documentation, as well as the letter granting faculties if applicable, be received in our Parish Office at least four weeks prior to your wedding date.

C. Wedding coordinator

Wedding coordinators are assigned by the parish to each wedding held at St Stephens. Consultation with the parish wedding coordinator is required for all weddings, including those with an Officiant from another parish.

Please ask your priest or deacon to put you in touch with the Wedding Coordinator at least 3 months before your wedding date. Your wedding coordinator can answer questions and assist you in planning the practical details of your wedding. Please be aware that the entire ceremony is under the direction of the Officiant of St. Stephens and the wedding coordinator. A bridal consultant, if you choose to have one, must not interfere and may function only under the direction of the officiating priest or deacon and the wedding coordinator.

D. Wedding Times

Weddings are normally scheduled at St. Stephen the Martyr on Saturdays. The set times on Saturdays are for 11:00 a.m., 2:00 p.m. If you arrive more than fifteen minutes after your assigned begin time, St. Stephen the Martyr reserves the right to shorten your ceremony.

The normal time allowed for a wedding is 45 minutes for set up, one hour for the ceremony and one hour for pictures and clean up.

E. Rehearsal Times

Rehearsals are usually scheduled for Fridays at 5:00pm or 6:00pm

III. FACILITIES

Our Sanctuary provides seating for approximately 350.

St. Stephen the Martyr is an active parish, and due to other scheduled events, the following are recommendations to follow to accommodate both the wedding and regular parish life in harmony:

For a Saturday 11:00 a.m. wedding, the Church should be vacated by 1:00 p.m.

For a Saturday 2:00 p.m. wedding, the Church should be vacated by 4:00 p.m.

For Weddings at other days/times, please discuss that with your priest and wedding coordinator.

IV. MARRIAGE PREPARATION

Marriage preparation is mandatory, and usually takes six months to complete. On your first visit, the Officiant will discuss how to fulfill this requirement.

The required Marriage Preparation includes several meetings with the Officiant, completion of FOCCUS and review, as well as attendance at a pre-cana program recommended by the Archdiocese of Atlanta.

Pre-Cana Workshops (2 Days) available through the Archdiocese of Atlanta:

Day 1 - Joy Filled Marriage Program – *Living a Joy-Filled Marriage*

Day 2 - Joy Filled Marriage Program - *God's Plan for a Joy-Filled Marriage*

Optional - Remarriage - *Love Again*

Other Pre-Cana programs:

Three to Get Married – a weekend retreat

Engaged Encounter—a weekend retreat

Llamados A Ser Uno (Called to be One) – in Spanish.

Your priest or deacon will assist you in determining what is most appropriate for your marriage preparation.

The most important aspect of preparation for the marriage is spiritual. This should mean that both parties to the engagement have an active faith involvement in their faith community. For a Catholic, this includes active participation in a Catholic parish as a good steward of God's gifts.

V. REQUIRED DOCUMENTS

Church Documents - The following documents are required by the Church:

1. Baptismal Certificates: Catholics need a recent copy of their baptismal certificate from the Church of their baptism (issued within the past six months), noting all Sacraments received.*

All Catholics must have received all Sacraments of Initiation: Baptism, First Reconciliation, First Eucharist and Confirmation. If the Bride or Groom was baptized in another faith, and later was received into the Catholic Church, we need a copy of his/her Profession of Faith, with notations. Non-Catholics must provide some evidence of baptism, i.e. a certificate or letter from the Church's secretary, or a signed affidavit by a witness to the baptism. Bring these documents to the Priest or Deacon as soon as they are available.

*This can be easily obtained within a couple of weeks by writing to the Church where you were baptized requesting a "baptismal certificate with notations." The original certificate issued years ago is unacceptable.

If baptized at a Military Chapel write to: Archdiocese for Military Services, USA, Sacramental Records Department, Post Office Box 4469, Washington, DC 20017-0469. You can either print a request form to mail to this address, or make your request online at <http://www.milarch.org/sacramental/index.html>. There is a processing fee of \$26.50 per request.

2. Affidavit for Freedom to Marry: The Bride and Groom each need two affidavits completed on their behalf. Affidavits are completed by relatives or friends who attest that each of the espoused is free to marry. These forms must be either notarized by a Notary Public or signed in the presence of a clergy member of the pastoral staff, or if out of town, in the presence of their own priest or deacon.

Please do not turn in Affidavits without one of these forms of witness. Forms will be given to the couple during their first meeting with the Priest or Deacon and should be returned as quickly as possible.

3. Archdiocesan Bride and Groom Questionnaires: These forms are completed by the Priest or Deacon at one of your meetings. Forms are signed and witnessed to certify that the information is correct.

4. Dispensation Form: Whenever a Catholic marries a non-Catholic, Christian or non-Christian, the Church requires this form to be filled out by the clergy and filed with the Metropolitan Tribunal of the Archdiocese of Atlanta. Whenever a marriage ceremony (reception of vows) is conducted by a non-Catholic minister or civil official, a dispensation form is required as well. The Clergy member will complete this form for you if required.

5. Letter of Permission from Pastor: If either party is a Catholic and a member of a parish other than St. Stephen the Martyr, they will need to have the pastor of their parish provide a letter of permission in order to be married outside of their home parish.

6. Final Decree of Annulment: If either party has been married before and the marriage resulted in a divorce, evidence of an annulment will be required. For those who have already obtained an annulment, a copy of the Final Decree is required; if an annulment is required but not yet obtained, the Priest or Deacon can assist with this process. A wedding date cannot be entered on the Church calendar, even tentatively, until evidence of the annulment, in the form of a Final Decree, has been received.

VI. Civil Documents

1. Civil Marriage License: A Civil Marriage License (with return envelope) is obtained at any County Probate Court in the State of Georgia, however if you reside outside of the state of Georgia, you must obtain your license from Fulton County. License fees may vary; you can obtain specifics on fees and requirements by contacting one of the following offices:

Cherokee County Probate Court 90 North Street, Suite 340 Canton, GA 30014 770-704-2610 (information line) 678-493-6160	Fulton County Probate Court North Fulton Annex 7741 Roswell Road NE Atlanta, GA 30350 770-551-7638
Cobb County Probate Court 32 Waddell Street Marietta, GA 30090 770-528-1931	Gwinnett County Probate Court 75 Langley Drive Lawrenceville, GA 30045 770-822-8265 (information line)
DeKalb County Probate Court 556 N. McDonough Street Room 1100 DeKalb County Courthouse Annex Decatur, GA 30030 404-371-2601	

The Marriage License, along with the return envelope furnished by the County (preferably stamped), should be given to the Officiant at least one week prior to the wedding ceremony. It is illegal in Georgia for a clergy member to officiate at a marriage unless the license is in hand. Assurances that the license has been issued are not sufficient.

2. Death Certificate: If either party has been married before, and the marriage ended due to the death of a spouse, a copy of the death certificate will be required.

Marriage Certificates:

After your wedding day, St. Stephen the Martyr Catholic Church will issue a Church Certificate of Marriage to you.

The priest or deacon performing your ceremony will then sign the civil marriage license and send it in to the appropriate probate court. To obtain a certified copy of your Civil Marriage Certificate, contact the Probate Court in the county in which you received your Marriage License. In some counties, you can arrange for this at the time you apply for the license.

VII. FEE SCHEDULE

Sanctuary Fee

The fee for the Sanctuary covers the use of: the Sanctuary for the ceremony; the Sanctuary for the rehearsal; the Bride's Room; and the Groom's Waiting Area; use of Church flowers. (due at reservation time).

Non-Parishioners and Registered Parishioners who are not active: \$700

Active Registered Parishioners** : \$0 (no charge)

**An active registered parishioner is an individual who is registered at St. Stephen the Martyr and who has been active in Time, Talent and Treasure for at least twelve months prior to the reservation of the wedding date. The determination of whether one is an active parishioner is made at the point of scheduling the first meeting with the Priest or Deacon, and is based upon regular attendance at Mass, volunteer work in parish ministries, and financial contribution through regular and consistent use of parish envelopes or check, so that it is on record at the parish.

Ceremony Fees

Musician Fees

Organist, Pianist - \$100 - \$250 (varies)

Cantor (if desired) – (varies)

collected at the Rehearsal by the Wedding Coordinator

Altar Servers

Altar Server \$20 per server (one server is assigned for a Liturgy of the Word, two for a full Mass) collected at the Rehearsal by the Wedding Coordinator.

Wedding Coordinator stipend - \$50

Officiant Stipend/ Honorarium

It is customary for the groom to provide an honorarium to the Priest or Deacon officiating. The amount is a matter of personal discretion and should reflect your sincere appreciation. Typically in Atlanta, the clergy stipend ranges from \$150 - \$250.

This may be given to the Priest or Deacon at the Rehearsal or the day of the wedding.

Cancelation Policy

St. Stephen the Martyr reserves the right to cancel the wedding if the legal requirements under Georgia State law or Church law are not met.

VIII. PLANNING THE LITURGY

A. Ceremony

There are two types of beautiful wedding ceremonies: Wedding Liturgy within the Mass and Wedding Liturgy outside of Mass. Both of these Liturgies celebrate unity. The Bride and Groom will discuss these options with their Priest or Deacon and decide which is appropriate for their wedding. All decisions and plans should be made while meeting with the clergy.

Two Catholics: The celebration of marriage between two Catholics may take place during Holy Mass. The couple should understand that they are the ministers of Christ's grace in the sacrament of Matrimony. The Priest who assists at the celebration of the sacrament receives the consent of the spouses in the name of the Church and gives the blessing of the Church. The purpose of the Priest and the other official witnesses (best man and maid of honor) is to express visibly the fact that marriage is a public, ecclesial (Church) reality. It is also highly recommended that before their wedding, the Bride and Groom would each make a sincere and good confession.

Interfaith Marriage: If one of the spouses is a baptized Christian of another denomination, either Liturgy may be used. However, if choosing the Wedding Liturgy within the Mass, only the Catholic party may receive Holy Communion because the Catholic Church does not recognize intercommunion. The Priest will give a brief explanation at Mass and will invite those who are not Catholic to come forward for a blessing. In addition, if one of the parties in the marriage is not baptized, then the wedding takes place most appropriately in the context of a Wedding Liturgy apart from Mass, which would not include Holy Communion.

The Priest or Deacon will provide a copy of a wedding planning publication for the appropriate Wedding Liturgy chosen, which lists suggested readings and gives an overview of all prayers and vows recited. This booklet is designed to help you choose readings, music, prayers, etc., as well as wedding participants. You will use this booklet to discuss your ceremony with the Officiant and your Wedding Coordinator. You will be asked to complete the Wedding Information Form located in the back of the booklet and return it to the Priest or Deacon preparing you at least one week prior to the wedding date. You will also be provided a Wedding Logistics Checklist by the Wedding Coordinator to complete, which will also assist you in planning your ceremony.

B. Music

All music for the wedding ceremony must be discussed and approved by the music staff at SSTM. Your wedding coordinator will assist you in contacting the music staff.

Guidelines for music at the ceremony are as follows:

- i) Any guest organist, instrumental musicians and soloists must be approved by the parish's coordinator of music, in order to ensure the integrity of the liturgy.
- ii) Only live music is allowed (no recorded music)

- iii) Only sacred music will be allowed for the liturgy, as dictated by pastoral norms.
- iv) No music rehearsals will take place during the rehearsal. In the rare occasion when a visiting musician is permitted to participate, and he/she wants rehearsal time, there will need to be one of our staff at the practice, with the additional fee of \$100.

C. Flowers, Candles and Decorations

Altar Flowers: The wedding sanctuary fee includes the use of the Churches flowers in place for the week's masses and ceremonies. New floral arrangements are displayed each week. The Church determines the color and flower types used in the altar flowers. The colors and types of flowers used are based on a number of factors.

Adding Altar Flowers: Brides may choose to supplement St. Stephen the Martyr's main altar arrangements with additional flowers. Additional flowers may be placed on the side altars, on pillars (supplied by your florist), or elsewhere in the sanctuary, as space is available so long as the sanctity of St. Stephen the Martyr is maintained. Any additional flowers should be removed by the couple immediately following the ceremony. Couples may also sponsor additional flowers on the main and side altars by contacting the parish manager (Mary Burks at 770-381-7488 x223).

Removing Main Altar Flowers: In general, a bride should not remove the church's main altar flowers. However, any requests (to remove and replace main altar flowers) should be submitted to Mary Burks one month in advance of the wedding date.

Candles: The candles on both the High Altar and the Communal Altar will be lit for your ceremony.

Unity Candles are not available at St. Stephen the Martyr and are discouraged as the *Unity Candle* is not part of the Rite of Marriage. It is recommended that if you desire a unity candle, that it be used at the rehearsal dinner or reception instead.

Your florist may supply additional candelabrum on the altar, but all candles **MUST BE** driplless. You are responsible for ensuring any candelabrum brought from an outside source is removed immediately following your ceremony. You may not use open flames as aisle decoration.

Pew Decorations: For the protection of the pew furniture, pew decorations are discouraged. If used, ribbon, or a length of tulle, may be tied to the end of the pew to attach a flower arrangement; no tacks, staples, tape or putty may be used on pews, walls or furnishings; shedding greenery and candles are not allowed on the pews. Anything used to attach flowers to the ribbon/tulle should be covered in fabric. All pew decorations must be removed by the florist or their representative, and any cleanup necessary due to removing the pew decorations must be done by same immediately following the ceremony. You will be held fully responsible for any damage to the pews or other furnishings as a result of non-compliance with the instructions given.

Outside Wedding Décor: Decorations are allowed on entry doors, both exterior and interior, however no tacks, staples, nails or other implements which may harm the wood may be used. No rice, balloons, birdseed, bubbles or confetti, etc., may be used. Bells and colored glow sticks are allowed outdoors. Any requests for other decorations must be approved by the Pastor and if approved, must be removed immediately following the ceremony.

Flower Girls and Ring Bearers

Due to liability issues, flower petals, real or artificial, may not be strewn on the floors of the Sanctuary or Chapel or anywhere in or outside the church building or parking lot. However, they may have flower buds that can be handed to guests seated on the aisle, every other row so as not to delay the procession. Otherwise, if you choose to have a flower girl in your wedding party, her role is to be strictly symbolic. The same is true for ring bearers. The rings to be used for the ceremony may not be attached to the ring bearer's pillow. The rings should be given to the Wedding Coordinator prior to the wedding so that she can place them on the altar. The minimum suggested age for both flower girls and ring bearers is age four.

D. Photography

The Bride and Groom make their own arrangements for photography. Within reason, the photographer is permitted a great deal of leeway at the Church; however, the photographer may not enter the altar/sanctuary area during the ceremony. The Church allows flash photography during the ceremony but only from the rear of the Nave. The official photographer, family and friends should keep in mind the sacred nature of the occasion and conduct themselves accordingly. Similarly, the photographer must be dressed appropriately for a formal church service. The photographer should direct any questions to the Wedding coordinator during the time they are on church premises and are asked to cooperate with direction provided by the Wedding coordinator and the Officiant.

Pre-Ceremony Photos

Wedding Parties should not arrive at St. Stephen the Martyr any earlier than one and a half hours prior to the start of the ceremony. Pre-Ceremony photos may be taken in various areas around church grounds, if desired.

Post-Ceremony Photos

We realize how important good pictures are to the Bride and Groom on this occasion and we wish to accommodate your photographer as much as we can. The time allocated for photos and clean-up after the ceremony is 1 hour. Please be prepared to move quickly through your list of photos. It is a good idea to give your photographer a complete list of your requests a week before your wedding. With this list, he will be able to make the most of the time you are allotted. Any posed photographs involving the Officiant are to be taken first.

Please note: If your ceremony does not begin on time or exceeds the normal length of a wedding due to additions made to the ceremony at the couple's request, you may not have much time for post-ceremony photos; however we will make all attempts to accommodate post-ceremony photos.

During the photo session after the ceremony, the photographer is the person principally charged with insuring that a respectful decorum, consistent with the sacred nature of the space, is observed by all involved. In the event the photographer has difficulties enforcing this, he/she may request the assistance of the Wedding Coordinator.

The photographer is required to review the guidelines and agree to the policies of the Church.

E. Videography

If you choose to have your ceremony videotaped, your Videographer will be asked to acknowledge the following regulations by signature on the Videographer Agreement:

- All video equipment should be set up no later than thirty minutes before the scheduled time of the wedding.
- Video equipment must be stationary during the ceremony; no —roving camera is permitted.
- No floodlights or any other special lighting may be used during the ceremony.
- No wires may be laid across any aisles.
- Nothing may be, pinned, stapled or otherwise affixed in any way to Church walls, furnishing or floors. The only acceptable tape is stage or gaffers tape, but should only be used if absolutely necessary.
- Persons operating video equipment shall be dressed appropriately for a formal church service and in a manner comparable to guests in attendance.
- The videographer may not tap into St. Stephen the Martyr sound system for additional sound.

IX. REHEARSAL

The rehearsal is usually scheduled the day before the ceremony. The rehearsal times are 5 PM and 6 PM. Changes in the rehearsal time are allowed with the permission of the Officiant and as the availability of the worship space allows. Each rehearsal period is set for one hour.

The Bride and Groom are responsible for ensuring prompt attendance of all members of the wedding party. Those attending should be present at least 15 minutes prior to your scheduled rehearsal time to ensure a successful rehearsal. All members of the wedding party must be mindful that they are within a sacred place where respectful behavior is expected from everyone.

Please be aware that the entire ceremony is under the direction of the Priest or Deacon who is in attendance, with the assistance of the Wedding Coordinator. Wedding/Bridal consultants, if you choose to have them, are not to interfere and may function only under the direction of the Officiant and/or the St. Stephens Wedding Coordinator.

The Church and parish facility are non-smoking areas. Only light food and drink (no alcohol) may be consumed on parish grounds or brought into the parish buildings on the day of the wedding.

X. WEDDING DAY

The Bridal Party should not arrive at the Church any earlier than one and a half hours before the scheduled wedding time.

The florist, photographer and videographer may set up 1 hour prior to the wedding. They are asked to abide by the regulations set forth in the vendor agreement they have signed. If they have any questions on the wedding day, they should direct them to the Wedding Coordinator.

As at the rehearsal, the Bridal Party must be mindful of the sacredness of the rite and are asked to abide by the Church policies and procedures within this booklet and listed specifically in the next section, General Regulations.

If you arrive more than fifteen minutes past your scheduled start time, the Church reserves the right to shorten and/or cancel your ceremony.

XI. BRIDE'S ROOM / GROOMSMEN ROOM

The Bride's Room, "Infant of Prague", is for the exclusive use of the Bride and her bridesmaids before the ceremony only. This has a private bathroom. Water and light snacks are allowed in the Bride's Room, within reason, and with the expectation that the room will be cleaned and in the condition in which it was found.

The "Our Lady of Fatima" room is for the exclusive use of the Groom and his groomsmen before the ceremony.

Before the ceremony, please remove any valuables/ personal items from the room. The parish cannot accept responsibility for the security of personal items or of items left before, during or after your ceremony anywhere on the Church grounds. As with the food regulation above, the rooms are expected to be left in the condition in which they were found and it is the Bride and Groom's responsibility to designate a person for tidying the Bride's Room and Groom's waiting area.

XII. GENERAL REGULATIONS

The Bridal Party is urged to arrive at the Church at least 1 hour prior to the ceremony, and to abide by the times listed as required departure time.

No smoking is permitted anywhere in the parish buildings.

No alcohol may be consumed or brought on the parish grounds or in parish buildings, either at the rehearsal, before the ceremony or at the actual ceremony. If this should occur, the Priest or Deacon has the right to refuse to perform the ceremony.

No flower petals (real, paper or silk) may be thrown by guests or flower girls. However, they may have flower buds that can be handed to guests seated on the aisle, every other row so as not to delay the procession. No rice, balloons, bubbles, birdseed, confetti, etc. may be used. Bells and colored glow sticks are allowed outside.

A nursery is not available during weddings. Under no circumstances will any room within the church be allowed for impromptu babysitting purposes by family or guests, as this is in direct violation of the Safe Environment Policies of the Archdiocese of Atlanta. The Bride and Groom will be held responsible for communicating this policy to family and guests.

For the sanctity of the Church, protection of parish property, security of your guests and for the overall decorum of your wedding, these regulations will be strictly enforced. It is the responsibility of the Bride and Groom to assure that your florists, photographers, videographers, outside wedding consultants, wedding party, family and guests are aware of and observe these regulations.