

GUIDELINES AND INFORMATION FOR MARRIAGE

**Church of Christ the King
445 Kings Highway
Rochester, New York 14617**

The parish family at Christ the King welcomes you and congratulates you on your forthcoming wedding. We hope that these guidelines for marriage at Christ the King will be useful for you.

The Catholic Church has always had a high regard for marriage and has constantly taught that the marriage between two Christians is a Sacrament. *The relationship between husband and wife takes as its model the love and fidelity that Christ has for the Church.* (Ephesians 5: 25-33)

For a marriage to be sacramental two baptized persons

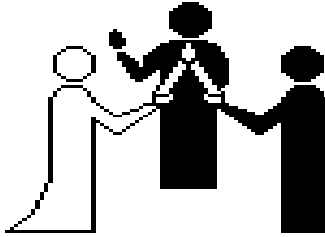
- Freely enter into a vowed commitment of respect, reverence and love.
- Make this promise for a lifetime.
- This commitment includes the promise of fidelity.
- It also includes an openness to bearing children, providing for their welfare and bringing them up in the faith.

We pray that your wedding and all the events that surround it will be for you an occasion for you to know the boundless love that God has for you. Be assured of our prayers for you as you prepare for your wedding.

THE FOLLOWING GUIDELINES WILL HELP YOU AS YOU MAKE YOUR WEDDING PLANS.

PREPARATION

1. The engaged couple should contact a priest on the staff at Christ the King at least six months before the anticipated date of marriage. Before this meeting a date may be penciled in the parish calendar but not confirmed until the couple meets with the priest.
2. At the first meeting the priest will meet with the couple to discuss the qualities which make for a good marriage, the Church's teaching on marriage as Sacrament, and to assess the couple's readiness to enter into a sacramental marriage. When it is determined that the couple is free and ready to enter into marriage the date of the wedding and rehearsal will be entered in the Church's calendar. Normally there will be three more meetings to fill out the necessary forms and papers, to discuss the Focuss and to plan the marriage liturgy.
3. The Diocese of Rochester expects that couples preparing for marriage will attend Pre-Cana marriage sessions held either here at Christ the King or at other parishes. We strongly urge you to attend the sessions here at Christ the King if this fits into your schedule. The Pre-Cana facilitators for our parish are ***Kathy and Kevin Kane (787-9432)***. If the couple wishes they may make an Engaged Encounter Weekend instead of Pre Cana.
4. When plans for the liturgy are nearing completion the couple should contact the parish's wedding Coordinator, ***Dolores Fischer (342-8094)*** to discuss the many details involved in the wedding ceremony. She will attend the rehearsal and as coordinator is responsible in facilitating a smooth and harmonious ceremony.



BAPTISMAL INFORMATION

Contact the Church where you were baptized and ask for a recently dated copy of your baptismal certificate. Parishes are used to providing this information and it is usually obtained by a simple phone call to the parish secretary.

TIMES OF WEDDINGS

Weddings are normally scheduled on Saturdays at 11:00 am and 2:00 pm.

MUSIC

The Diocese of Rochester has guidelines for music at weddings. In keeping with the sacredness of the sacrament of marriage and its celebration in a sacred space of worship the music chosen for your wedding must be of a religious nature. You should discuss the music for your wedding with the officiating priest or deacon.

Christ the King will offer a session on appropriate music for weddings conducted by our Director of music ministry, *Jean Grizard (266-1288)*. We urge you to attend this session so that you may be aware of the many options available. Information on the date of the next scheduled session is available through the parish rectory office, or the officiating priest or deacon. If you are unable to attend this session, please call Jean Grizard to make other arrangements.

The services of the parish organist, *Mary Ann Rodenbeck (467-8531)* is to be used if organ music is desired. Any other arrangement must have the permission of the presiding minister.

FLOWERS

Floral pieces may not be placed on the altar table or in front of the altar. Kindly consult the wedding coordinator for details.

WEDDING LICENSE

A New York State Wedding License is to be brought to the rehearsal. Please note that marriages in New York State may not take place until 24 hours after the time that the license was issued. Licenses are valid for two months. We suggest that the license be obtained several weeks before the service.

CONFETTI OR RICE

Please inform your guests that rice, confetti or birdseed is not to be thrown inside or outside the church.

PHOTOGRAPHS

Photographs may be taken and videos may be made during the ceremony as long as the view of anyone is not obstructed and they do not distract from the reverential character of the liturgy.

AISLE RUNNERS

Aisle runners have become a hazard for people coming to communion. This is especially true for the elderly who may be unsteady on their feet. To ensure that there will be no accidents at your wedding they will not be allowed at church.

FEES

Christ the King: The suggested diocesan offering is \$150.00 – which includes fees for the wedding coordinator.

Organist: The suggested diocesan fee is \$125.00.

Wedding Coordinator: *Dolores Fischer*, (342-8094)

Officiating Priest or Deacon: Amount left to your discretion.