

Weddings  
at  
Holy Cross Catholic Church  
✝

616 S. Cherry Street  
Kernersville, NC 27284  
(336) 996-5109

Revised 10/2008

In our faith we celebrate the sacred events in our lives at church. We are happy that you have chosen to celebrate your wedding at Holy Cross Catholic Church. The following guidelines and policies of the church are listed for your information and assistance in planning your wedding.

**Scheduling**

Weddings are usually scheduled on Saturday. Weddings are not permitted on Sundays. If the wedding includes Mass, it must begin by 2:00 p.m. If no Mass, it must begin by 3:00 p.m. No Saturday evening weddings may be scheduled.

**Who does What?**

The wedding ceremony and rehearsal are normally presided over by a priest of the parish. If the couple desires another priest, they must discuss this with the parish priest at the initial meeting. In marriages between a Catholic and a non-Catholic, a minister from another faith may participate with the priest. This possibility must be discussed with the priest at least four months in advance.

**The Rehearsal**

The rehearsal generally takes place on the day before the wedding. Because we have Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament every Friday in the church, the rehearsal may not begin before 6:15 PM. All members of the wedding party including the lectors are to take part in the rehearsal. The marriage license must be presented to the priest at the rehearsal.

## **Photography**

Photographs may be taken during the ceremony provided no flash is used. The photographer may move about, but must not enter the sanctuary area. The ceremony may be videotaped with the same principles applying.

## **Music**

Music for a wedding follows the same liturgical standard as music for any public worship. No matter how meaningful a certain song may be, the guiding principle for wedding music is its relationship to the religious celebration of marriage.

In general, music from movies, Broadway shows, TV, popular songs of the day, and the traditional wedding marches are not consistent with liturgical standards. This is music that should be part of the reception. The only exception would be a traditional march if it has significant meaning to the couple. In planning music, the ideal is to keep in mind the full and active participation of the assembly who have come to share this day with you.

Our choir director is Kathleen Skotcher (993-4370), and Ron Ricci is the Director for Agape (Folk Group) (595-8360). If you would like for one of them to provide the music for your wedding, they should be contacted soon after your initial visit with the parish priest. They will meet with you to discuss music selections. If you wish to have musicians other than those listed above, you must contact the church office for approval. If you are providing your own musician, they need to contact Ron Ricci (595-8360) to obtain instructions on using the sound system.

The usual fee for the organist or folk group is \$100.00. This includes consultation, normal rehearsal time, and the service. Weddings which require extra rehearsal time with the soloist or place special demands on the organist's time will be charged a proportionately increased fee.

## **Flowers and Other Decorations**

In choosing decorations, the principles of "less is more" and "elegance in simplicity" certainly complement the architecture of our church and the size of the sanctuary.

Flowers are limited to two altar arrangements at either side of the altar or one in the middle. The use of candelabra must be discussed with the priest. Only drip less candles may be used. No decorations may be placed on the altar.

Pew bows or markers may be used. They must be either the clip type or fit over the pews. No thumb tacks, tacks, tape (including scotch tape) may be used. The practice of strewing flowers is not allowed. The church is carpeted; therefore a runner is not necessary to prevent the soiling of the bride's gown. You must schedule your decorating of the church with the office.

## **Reception**

The Salesian Hall is available for receptions. This must be scheduled on the parish calendar at the time the wedding is scheduled.

All candles used at the reception must be in votive holders. Tapers must be in hurricane-type enclosures. No sparklers or fireworks of any kind may be used on church property.

## **Receiving Lines**

A receiving line is at the place of reception. If the reception is at Holy Cross, the receiving line is to be in the Parish Hall, **not** the Church.

## **Rice**

The throwing of rice or bird seed is not permitted on church property.

## **Programs**

A program may be used for the ceremony if you so desire.