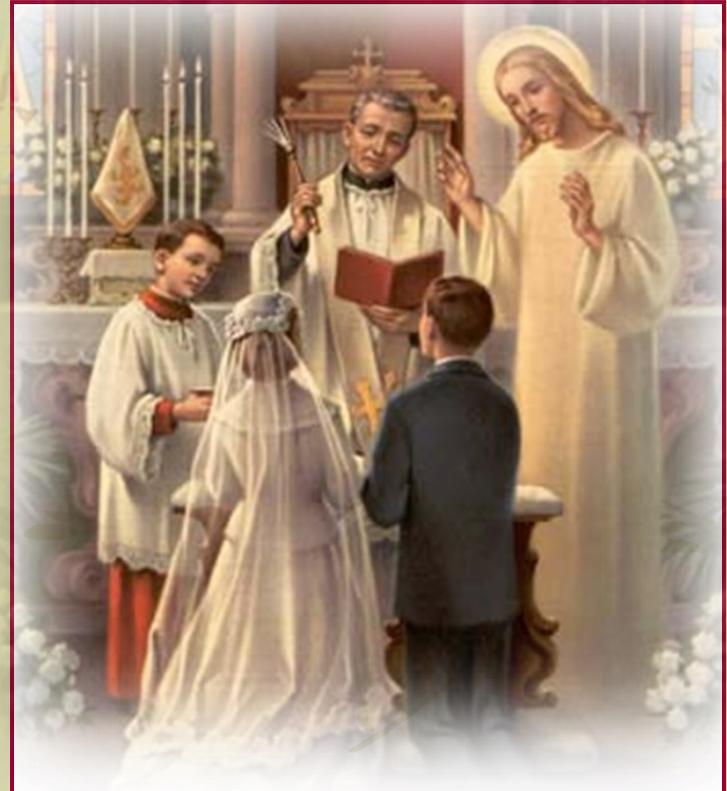


Photography and Videotaping

A Catholic wedding is a liturgical ceremony. Care must be taken to see that the Mass and marriage rite are not disrupted by the taking of pictures or video. The parish Wedding Coordinator will assist you on the day of the wedding. You may contact her earlier if you have questions. We ask for and appreciate your cooperation with our requests.

- Only one photographer and one videographer will be allowed in the church during the liturgy.
- Flash photos may be taken as the bridal party is processing into and out of the church. They should be kept to a minimum during the Mass or ceremony.
- Photographers and videographers may not enter the sanctuary area—the elevated area around the altar and ambo (pulpit). Nor may they disrupt the liturgy in any way.
- Videotaping may be done with one stationary camera in an inconspicuous place.
- Please do not recreate moments that have already taken place such as the vows or ring exchange.
- Posed pictures may be taken in the church after the wedding.
- Pictures taken in the church following a Saturday afternoon wedding must conclude by 3:00 pm to accommodate other regular weekend church services.



**Our Lady of Las Vegas
Roman Catholic Church**

Marriage Guidelines

Parish Registration

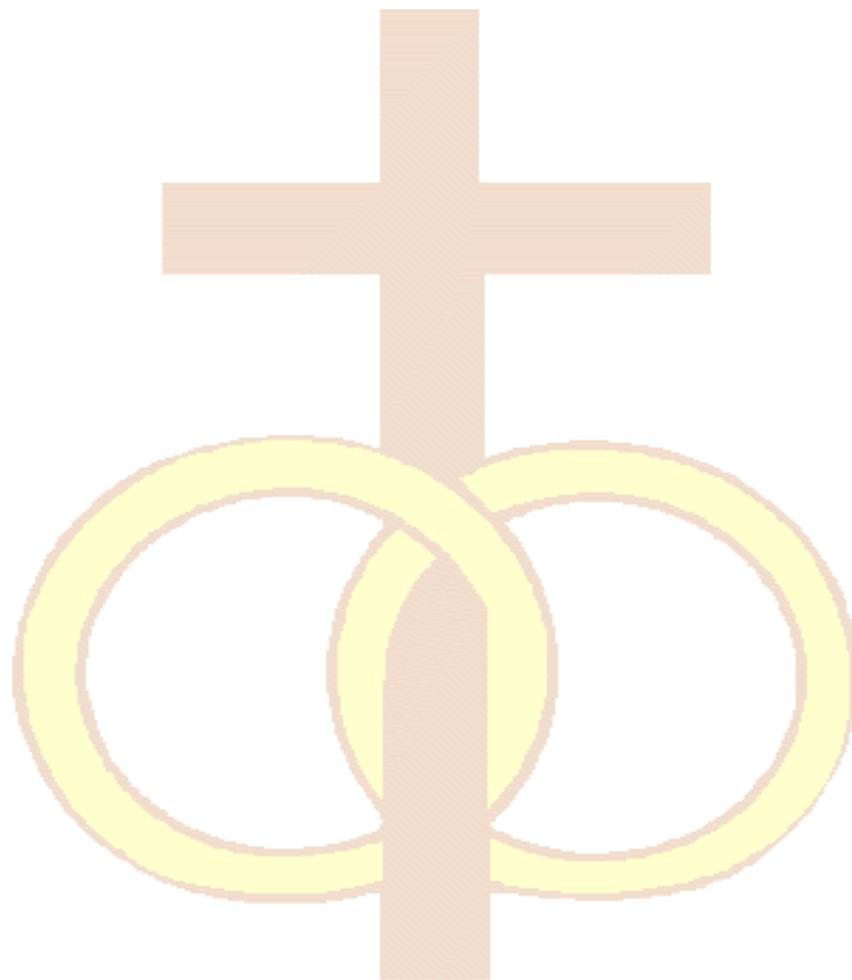
The exchange of wedding vows in the Catholic Church (Holy Matrimony) is a sacrament when it occurs between two baptized Christians. All sacraments, including marriage, are celebrated in the presence of the faith community. Also, registering as a member of our faith community signifies your commitment to practicing the Catholic faith which includes regular attendance at Sunday celebrations of the Eucharist, receiving the Sacrament of Reconciliation on a regular basis, and reliving other basics of the Catholic faith. For these reasons we require that at least one member of the engaged couple (or their parents) be a registered parishioner for at least six months before preparation for the Sacrament of Holy Matrimony may begin. Those who are members of another parish with the Diocese of Las Vegas, must provide us with a letter showing that we have that parish's permission to perform their marriage. Marriages of visitors to Las Vegas are witnessed at the Guardian Angel Cathedral.

Days and Times for Weddings

Wedding ceremonies at Our Lady of Las Vegas usually take place on Saturday. If there are no impediments in the circumstances of your marriage, a date may be scheduled at the first appointment with our pastor. Please do not reserve a reception venue before confirming the wedding ceremony date and time with our church. To accommodate our housekeeping and liturgy schedules, weddings may be held between 11 AM and 1 PM. We schedule one wedding per Saturday, We do not celebrate weddings during Lent.

Steps in Sacramental Preparation

The wedding preparation process is designed to help you assess your readiness for sacramental marriage. During this time an issue may arise that deserves more time and attention. It is better to address these issues during the preparation period when steps can be taken to resolve differences before the marriage commitment is made.



**All Wedding Fees Due 3 months before wedding date
150.00 deposit due at time of scheduling**

Church Maintenance Wedding Coordinator	450.00
Organist/Piano	100.00
Soloist/Cantor	100.00
Total	650.00

- Additional Musician fees can be discussed with the Music Director.
- All checks are made payable to Our Lady of Las Vegas Catholic



Contacts

Parish Office/Sacramental Administrator, Julia Dodson
802-2300

Wedding Coordinator, Suzan Bennett
301-1104

Music Director, David Kowaleski
245-6159

Steps in Marriage Preparation Process

It is assumed that throughout the process, the couple (or Catholic party) is attending Mass on weekends.

6-9 Months Prior to Your Wedding

- Attend the mandatory Pre-Cana/Pre-Marriage Class.
- Contact the parish office to set up an appointment with the priest and the sacramental administrator. (there may be additional meetings scheduled throughout the process).
- Contact the wedding coordinator and music director to get your scheduled wedding date on their calendars.
- A wedding date MAY tentatively be scheduled at this time and a deposit will be required.

3 Months Prior to Your Wedding

- Turn in copies of baptism certificates with notations and original Marriage license to the parish office.
- Parish Fee due

1 Month Prior to Your Wedding

- Make an appointment for the concluding session with the priest and/or sacramental administrator.

Ceremony Guidelines

Your wedding ceremony will be planned by you and with the assistance of the Our Lady of Las Vegas Wedding Coordinator.

If a Mass is celebrated as part of your wedding ceremony, the order of liturgical rites will be: Liturgy of the Word, Marriage Rite, and Liturgy of the Eucharist (consecration and communion). If a wedding ceremony outside of Mass is planned, the order of liturgical rites will be; Liturgy of the Word (scripture readings), Marriage Rite and Blessing.

The Liturgy of the Eucharist is not to be celebrated at the marriage of a Catholic and a non-baptized person or a Catholic and baptized non-Catholic; a Liturgy of the Word service is celebrated.

While allowing for certain personal preferences and choices, the wedding liturgy follows certain prescribed norms.

- The congregation actively participates in both spoken and sung parts of the liturgy.
- Reading choices will be provided to the bride and groom if they wish to select a readings and petitions..
- Readers may be family members or close friends with a good speaking voice who are also trained lectors. (they may also be provided by the church). (no children under the age of 16).
- Servers are provided by the Church but may be Catholic family members or friends who are trained as altar servers.
- For a Mass, gift presenters may be family members or close friends.
- Musicians and cantors are provided by the Church at an additional fee. Any non-parish musician, cantors or soloists MUST be approved the Pastor and the Parish Music Director.

Responsorial Psalm

This is usually sung by the soloist but can also be recited.

Gospel Acclamation

“Alleluia”

“Celtic Alleluia”

Unity Candle

“How Beautiful”

“One Hand, One Heart”

“My Heart Belongs to You”

“When Love is Found”

Liturgy of the Eucharist—Offertory Hymn

“Here I Am, Lord”

“Prayer of St. Francis”

Communion Hymn

“One Bread, One Body”

“I am the Bread of Life”

Flowers to Mary

“Ave Maria”

“Salve Regina”

“Immaculate Mary”

“Holy is His Name”

Recessional

“Bridal March”

“Vivaldi’s Spring”

“Trumpet Tune”

“Hymn of Joy”

Music for Your Wedding

The Our Lady of Las Vegas Music Director will consult with you on your music selections. There are liturgical guidelines that need to be adhered to and some of the options are listed below.

Prelude Music

This is the music that is played as your guests are being seated. It is almost always instrumental and includes music from the classical repertoire as well as classical hymns and some secular love songs.

Seating of the Mothers

You may wish to have the parents in the bridal procession, but it is common for the mothers to have their own procession. We reserve Marian hymns for this.

“Ave Maria”

“Salve Regina”

“Immaculate Mary”

“Holy is His Name”

Bridal Procession

This is the procession of the bridesmaids, flower girls, sometimes groomsmen, ring bearers, sponsors, etc. This includes all in the bridal party except the bride. Music is instrumental and can be either contemplative or fanfare-like depending on your taste;

“Pachelbel's Canon in D”

“Jesu Joy of Man's Desiring”

“Love is the Sunlight” (Piano Solo)

“Trumpet Voluntary”

“Trumpet Tune”

Bridal Procession

When the bride comes down the aisle.

“Bridal March”

(any selection from #3 above is also acceptable)

- Music Selections are sacred or classical pieces performed well and live.
- Church decorations must be fresh flowers only. Any other decorations MUST be approved by the Wedding Coordinator.



- The order of the entrance procession is determined by the wedding coordinator and the bride and groom.
- The Unity Candle is not an official part of the Roman Catholic marriage rite, but it may be included in your ceremony.
- Presenting flowers to the statue of the Blessed Mother is not part of the Catholic marriage rite. If you choose to do this, the couple often goes to the statue of the Blessed Mother together.
- The cultural practices of the exchange of arras (coins) and the use of the lasso are optional for Latin or Filipino couples to include in their ceremony.
- If you are preparing a program for your wedding guests. It should be approved by the priest to insure it is liturgically correct before printing.



At the Wedding Rehearsal and Ceremony

Please respect the church as the sacred place it is. We ask everyone to behave in a manner appropriate to being in church. Please refrain from chewing gum, using profane or inappropriate language, letting children run around in the church, etc. In order to keep the church clean for your wedding and the services following your ceremony - food, drink and chewing gum are prohibited in the church.

Each step of your ceremony will be practiced at the wedding rehearsal which is usually held the Friday afternoon before your wedding. Rehearsal typically lasts one hour. All those who have a part in your wedding ceremony should attend the rehearsal to become familiar with their roles. We ask everyone to arrive promptly. A smooth, well ordered rehearsal makes for a less stressful wedding ceremony. We ask everyone involved to carefully listen to and follow the instructions of the Wedding Coordinator. Any questions or problems that arise will be answered and resolved before the rehearsal is completed.

On the day of the wedding, the bride and her attendants must arrive fully dressed as there are no dressing areas to use. The bride and attendants may use the Welcome Room of the Church as a waiting room prior to the wedding ceremony. The groom and groomsmen must also arrive fully attired.

Only fresh flowers can be placed at the altar and ambo (pulpit). No other decorations are allowed in the church without consent of the pastor.

Your florist is welcome to visit our church prior to your wedding ,if they are not familiar with its layout and color scheme. Please have them contact the Wedding Coordinator to schedule a date and time for this. Flowers may be delivered on your wedding day, one hour before the ceremony begins.

Pew bow holders may be used but tape is not allowed. **Rice, birdseed, sparklers, poppers, flower petals and aisle runners are not to be used. These represent safety hazards and maintenance problems.**

The only candle you will supply is the large unity candle with tapers, if you choose to light one during your ceremony.

Please remember that a Catholic wedding is a liturgical ceremony. Photographers and videographers must be mindful of this sacredness.

To assist them and you, a sheet of information is provided in this booklet which you can give to them when they are hired.

Attire for the bride and her attendants

- Shoulders must be covered.
- No plunging necklines.
- No short skirts. Skirts must be no more than 4 inches above the knee.

Alcohol Policy

At no time before the wedding ceremony is drinking allowed for the bride, groom or any member of the wedding party. **The priest presiding at your wedding will refuse to allow the ceremony to occur if the bride, groom or any member of the wedding party has consumed or appears to be under the influence of alcohol or any controlled substance.** No alcoholic beverages are allowed on the church grounds.