

Mass:

Every Sunday at 9 a.m.

Monday - Friday at noon

Sacrament of Reconciliation:

following noon day Mass.

Children's Religious Education Classes are available on
Sundays, 10 - 11 am (3rd Sunday, 10:30 - 11:30 am)

If you are interested in knowing more about the Catholic faith,
or attending RCIA classes please phone or email us.



Sacred Heart Oratory

*A center for evangelization
in the heart of the community*

917 North Madison Street

Wilmington, DE 19801-1497

Phone 302-428-3658 • Fax 302-428-3655

e-mail: evangelization@ministryofcaring.org

web site: www.sacredheartoratory.org

Staff:

Father Ronald Giannone, OFM Cap. • Capuchin Friars

Deacon Gianni Chicco

Sr. Mary Daniel Jackson, SSCJ, Evangelization & Outreach Director

Joseph Michael Graney, Sacristan

LoriAnn Ford, Organist

Votive candles \$ 1.00 • Sanctuary candles \$ 5.00

Copies of Sacred Heart, A Work of Faith, A Work of Art
are available for a suggested donation of \$10.00.

For your convenience a restroom is available out the vestibule doors nearest 9th Street.



Wedding Preparation Manual

SACRED HEART ORATORY



917 N. Madison Street, Wilmington, DE 19801
www.sacredheartoratory.org
302-428-3658

Jan. 2011

YOUR WEDDING PREPARATION

Congratulations! Your decision to wed is an important one that requires careful preparations. No decision in your life will bring you as much fulfillment as sealing your love together in the sacrament of marriage. While couples very often concentrate on the wedding day itself, it is important to realize that a wedding is only a day; a marriage is for a lifetime. The Church is, therefore, intent on following procedures that are designed to help you get off to a good start toward a long-lasting, happy and fruitful marriage.

ARRANGE AN APPOINTMENT

An appointment with a member of the pastoral team must be made at least twelve months prior to the wedding. This will allow sufficient time for adequate pastoral preparation and will help assure you of your chosen date. Weddings are celebrated only for Sacred Heart Oratory members.

THE WEDDING DATE

A final date for the wedding will not be set until a preliminary meeting with the pastoral team member is complete. Weddings are normally scheduled on Saturdays. However, if you need another day of the week, we will try to accommodate.

COLLABORATION OF WITNESSES

Two witnesses, often the best man and maid/matron of honor, are required. You are most welcome to decide on the size of

your bridal party and to invite those you would like to be in the procession, such as your parents.

DOCUMENTS

Each party will need to supply a recent copy of their baptismal certificate dated within the last six months.

PREPARATION

You will meet with the priest throughout the year to prepare for your happy day. Also, a program designed to give counseling and direction for your marriage plans is available to help you. Programs include: Engaged Encounter, Evenings for the Engaged, and Pre-Cana. The priest preparing you for marriage will help you select a program that best fits your needs.

In conjunction with the priest, you will plan a marriage liturgy. There are various options in the ritual available including the

choice of procession, Scripture readings, and other special considerations that you may desire. We recommend the book *Together for Life*, by Joseph M. Champlin (Ave Maria Press), which contains many Scriptural readings, texts for weddings, and suggestions for weddings.

A Nuptial Mass is always encouraged among baptized Catholics. If the wedding involves someone from a non-Catholic denomination, you may want to consider a rite of marriage outside of Mass since non-Catholics may not receive Holy Communion.

DISPENSATIONS

In the case of a marriage between a Roman Catholic and a person of another faith (baptized or non-baptized), dispensation must be granted from the Bishop for the marriage to take place.

The Roman Catholic party will be asked to declare the intention of remaining faithful to the Church and to have the child(ren) baptized and raised as Roman Catholics.

LITURGICAL MUSIC

All music requests are handled through the Oratory's music director. You should contact the music director as soon as possible during the preparation process to assist you in the selection of music for your wedding liturgy. The music director can also help you arrange for other musicians such as a pianist, harpist, and/or a cantor, if you so desire.

CONTRIBUTIONS

The cost of maintaining the Oratory for the beauty of your wedding alone suggests the need for a donation. The recommended contribution for a wedding is \$500. The music director's stipend is \$175, payable to the director. Cantors are also generally given a minimum fee of \$100. If you have chosen a Nuptial Mass, you will need one or more altar servers. A gift of \$20 for each server is suggested.

REHEARSAL

Usually held the evening before the wedding. Please bring the marriage license, and fees for the cantor, music director, and altar server(s), and your donation to the Church. If you will be using Wedding candles, be sure to bring them with you. Also remember to bring your Wedding booklets to the Church so that they can be distributed as your guests arrive.

SPECIAL NOTES

If you are planning a printed program for your wedding that includes copyrighted music, make sure to allow yourself time to apply for the necessary permission from the music/publishing company.

Photographers and their equipment including video are to maintain a respectful distance from the sanctuary.

Rice, confetti or birdseed are not permitted to be thrown on the Church property, for the safety of all.

Arrangements for flowers, white runners, and wedding programs are up to you and your florist and/or printer.

In the history of marriage, there has never been a bride that arrived on time for a wedding. We appreciate your best efforts to be punctual.

MARRIAGE IS FOR A LIFETIME

In starting your journey of marriage, it is wise to make a spiritual preparation for marriage. Perhaps a retreat somewhere or a day of recollection, whatever is right for you. Certainly we would recommend a sincere, sacramental confession humbly before the Lord before embarking on a wondrous journey of a lifetime.