

St. Cecilia Church

General Wedding Information

- CONFERENCE** Approximately **8 months** prior to the wedding ceremony, the couple must contact the Parish Office at 488-3221 to schedule their appointment with the parish priest who will assist the engaged couple in the planning of the wedding ceremony.
- DOCUMENTS** A **BAPTISMAL CERTIFICATE** dated no sooner than 6 months before the wedding date must be submitted to the priest. This may be obtained from parish of Baptism at the person's request.
- MARRIAGE LICENSE** The couple may apply for this document at any town or city clerk's office in New York State. There is a 24-hour minimum and 30 day maximum waiting period required between the time of issuing the License and the Marriage. The **marriage license MUST be brought to the wedding rehearsal.**
- PRE-CANA** All couples must attend a Pre-Cana conference for Marriage Preparation, a requirement of our Diocese. Registration forms are available at the Parish Office. This conference should be taken by the couple at least 3 months prior to the ceremony.
- CEREMONY DAY & TIME** The times available for Weddings are **10:30 am** and **1:30pm on Saturdays.** There are no weddings permitted on **Sundays.** Evening weddings (Monday Through Friday) may be arranged after consultation with the priest.
- MARRIAGE CEREMONY** The Liturgy offers a number of prayers and readings from which you may choose. A copy of "**Together for Life**" by Father Joseph Champlin will be given to the couple as a reference book. The couple will fill out the "Selections Sheet" and returned to the priest a month before the ceremony.
- REHEARSAL** All who will be in the wedding party must be at the rehearsal. It is **ABSOLUTELY NECESSARY** that the **Best Man and Maid/Matron of Honor** be present, as well as the parents. Readers are also encouraged to attend in order to practice their reading. Please schedule your rehearsal time well in advance.
- OFFERING** The minimum suggested Church Offering is \$400 for registered parishioners and \$600 for non-parishioners. This offering includes the stipend for the priest, the fee for the organist, the rehearsal coordinator, the FOCCUS inventory and a donation to the Church.

A non-refundable deposit of \$200 is due at the first meeting with the priest, balance is due a month prior to the date of the wedding. If the couple has a financial burden, please discuss this matter with the Pastor.

- CLERGY:** A clergy offering should be made directly to the priest or deacon officiating the ceremony. You may request any qualified validly ordained priest or deacon to officiate or participate in your wedding ceremony. Please notify the Office if any visiting priest will attend or perform the wedding ceremony. It is customary for the visiting priest to conduct the rehearsal.
- RINGS:** The Best Man is usually responsible for making certain that the rings are present on the day of the wedding. There is no need to bring the rings to the rehearsal.
- FLOWERS:** Arrangements with the florist for both flowers and a runner are the responsibility of the couple. The church aisle is 81 feet long. It is customary to leave the flowers for the weekend Masses in church. However, if you chose not to have flowers or to remove them after the celebration, please let the Parish Office staff know in advance.
- MUSIC:** Our Music Minister, Betty Hommel, provides organ/piano voice music for weddings. Please call Betty at the Parish Office at (315-488-3221) to set up an appointment to cover all the Music Selections. The stipend for the Organist is included in the offering.
- ALTAR SERVERS:** Altar Servers are available upon request or the couple may provide one's own Servers. Suggested offering for each server is \$10.
- CONFETTI:** Rice, confetti, or rose petals in the interior or exterior of the church are prohibited. This creates a dangerous situation on the steps. So please, inform your relatives and friends of this. However, guests may use bubbles and greet the couple upon leaving church! Thank you for your cooperation.
- DRESS CODE:** Bride and bridesmaids dressers should be appropriate for Church attire, (Strapless and low-cut dresses should be accompanied by a jacket, shrug or shawl during the liturgical service)