

Wedding Fees and Stipends

1. \$400 for those persons who are not parishioners – other parishes.
2. \$300 for parishioners who are registered parishioners.
3. **Fee for the wedding is to be paid in order to reserve the church.**

FEES:

Music Fee: \$150 the parish provides someone to play and sing.
\$75 the parish provides someone to play or sing.

Offering to priest: \$125

Altar Servers: Generally a gift of \$10.00 is made to each of the altar servers, three for Mass, only one for a wedding outside of Mass.

Parish Hall: By advance contract and fee/deposit depending on your needs. Check availability for use during picture taking, use for a full reception, and kitchen access.

PARISH GUIDE FOR MARRIAGE



“May the Lord bless these rings which you give to each other as the sign of your love and fidelity.”
–Rite of Marriage

SACRED HEART PARISH
ABERDEEN, SOUTH DAKOTA

Revised 12-4-2009

PART I

The priests and parish family of Sacred Heart extend a warm welcome to you and your families as you prepare for the Sacrament of Matrimony, and for your wedding liturgy! We offer our prayers for God's blessing upon your life together, and upon your wedding.

WHAT CAN WE DO ON OUR OWN?

Pray individually: Since marriage is a vocation (call from God), talk to God about it: "Do you want me to marry? Do you want me to marry this person? Do you want me to marry at this time? If so, we will need your help." God will give His help.

Pray together: Praying as a couple may seem awkward at first. To get started, use prayers and readings from the Bible, or some of the traditional prayers. Try to pray together each day that you are together before your wedding. Then keep doing it afterward.

Participate in the life of the Church. Whether you are Catholic or not, participate in your Church. We are part of the Church in everyday life, and also in special activities. For Catholics, Sunday Mass is required (Sunday includes Saturday evening). Receive the Sacrament of Penance regularly. Offer your time and talent for parish activities. Contribute financially to your parish. Get to know people in the parish. Study and learn your faith.

Nuptial Blessing
The Lord's Prayer

Concluding Rite

Final Blessing
Presentation of the Couple
Recessional

"Psalm 19"

The Wedding Party

Parents

(Names)

Celebrant
Grandparents

Maid of Honor
Best Man
Bridesmaids

Groomsmen

Ushers

Our Special Thanks

Lector(s)
Organists/Musicians
Personal Attendant
Guest Book
Host and Hostess

**WEDDING CEREMONY
OF
(name of bride)
AND
(name of groom)

(date of wedding)**

SACRED HEART CATHOLIC CHURCH

Prelude	"Panis Angelicus" (solo) "A Wedding Song" (inst.)
Processional	"Arioso"
Gathering Song	"Love Divine, All Loves Excelling"
Opening Prayer	

Liturgy of the Word

Old Testament	Tobit 8:4-9
Responsorial Psalm	We praise You, O Lord, For all Your works are wonderful; We praise You, O Lord, Forever is Your love. (repeat after cantor and verses)
New Testament	Colossians 3:12-17
Gospel Acclamation (sung)	Celtic Alleluia
Gospel Reading	John 15-9-12
Homily	

Liturgy of Marriage

Exchange of Vows	
Blessing of Rings	
Lighting of Unity Candle (Sign License)	"Perfect Union" (duet)
Prayers of the Faithful	

SCHEDULING

Date: You will need to schedule the date of your wedding with one of the parish priests. When choosing a date it may be helpful for you to consider the estimated 6 month formal preparation period. Even though the date will be reserved once a fee is paid (see last page), it is considered tentative until all formal marriage preparation is completed. This is to allow freedom to change plans, if necessary.

Time: We will work with you to schedule your wedding at the time most convenient for all concerned. We avoid scheduling a Wedding Mass later than 2:00 pm on Saturdays. The reason times later than that are avoided is because of the regular parish schedule for Sunday – which includes Saturday afternoon Penance and evening Mass.

Rehearsal: Wedding rehearsals are usually held the evening before the wedding. You are encouraged to schedule the rehearsal as soon as possible after scheduling your wedding. You can schedule your rehearsal through one of the priests of Sacred Heart Parish.

MARRIAGE PREPARATION

After you have an initial meeting with the priest, you will then make an appointment to take the pre-marriage inventory (Foccus), which is an aid in helping you grow in your relationship prior to the ceremony. The inventory will be reviewed with you by a sponsoring couple. (3 to 4 meetings).

You will also be asked to attend either

1. An Engaged Encounter Weekend
OR
2. The Pre-Marriage Classes presented in our parish

AND

3. Natural Fertility Awareness Classes (Natural Family Planning)
Call Marilyn Wachs, 226-2232 to register. We ask that you do the introductory session and at least four follow-up sessions. As a special service to engaged couples, Avera Fertility Services offers a rate of \$75 total for these sessions.

After completing these requirements and meeting with the Liturgy Director you will then come back and meet with the priest. Please bring along the selection sheet with the readings and prayers you have chosen from Champlin's book, Together for Life.

DOCUMENTS NEEDED

Baptismal Certificates for the Catholic parties, issued within the last six months (i.e. *not* a copy from the time of your Catholic baptism). Call the parish where you were baptized and ask them to mail a new certificate to the priest in charge of your preparation. Those not of the Catholic Faith are asked to bring a copy of their baptismal certificate, not subject to an issue date.

Mixed Marriage Promises in the event of an interfaith marriage, the Catholic party signs a promise of continued practice of the Catholic Faith with the intention of

SAMPLE WEDDING PROGRAMS

VOWS WITHOUT MASS



Memorial Acclamation (sung)
Great Amen (sung)
The Lord's Prayer
Nuptial Blessing
Sign of Peace
Lamb of God
Communion

"Servant Song" (cong. Hymn)
"Commitment Song" (solo)

Prayer after Communion

Concluding Rite

Final Blessing
Introduction of the Couple
Recessional

"Trumpet Voluntary"

The Wedding Party

Parents (Names)

Celebrant

Grandparents

Maid of Honor

Best man

Bridesmaids

Groomsmen

Ushers

Our Special Thanks

Lector(s)

Servers

Organist/Musicians

Soloists

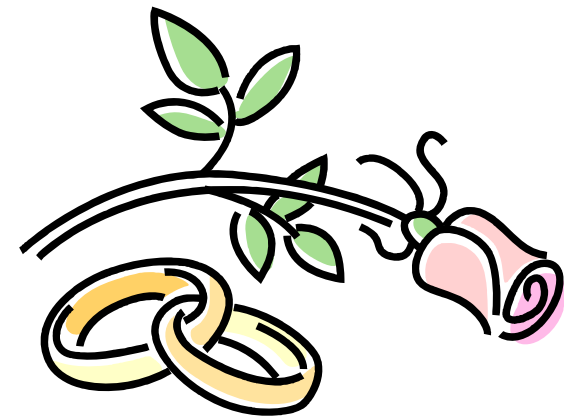
Personal Attendant

Guest Book

Host and Hostess

baptizing and training any and all children of the marriage in the Catholic Faith.

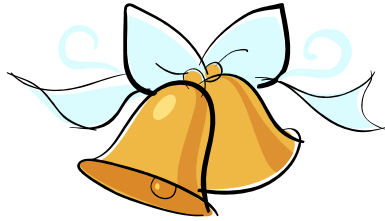
Marriage License The state of South Dakota requires a license for all marriages. This must be obtained in South Dakota and is valid for only 20 days. After obtaining the license, bring it, along with 3 copies of your wedding program, to the priest prior to the wedding rehearsal.



“For this reason a man shall leave his father and his mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh.’ This is a great mystery, but I speak in reference to Christ and the church. In any case, each one of you should love his wife as himself, and the wife should respect her husband.”

-Ephesians 5:31-33

PART II



PLANNING THE LITURGY

Good planning makes for a beautiful wedding liturgy. The priests and parish liturgy coordinator, Charlene Blondo, will assist you in the decisions that need to be made. Charlene will do most of the detailed planning with you. Please make an appointment with her after you have scheduled your wedding date (225-7065 ext. 15).

WEDDING LITURGY POLICIES

Church environment and decoration: Sacred Heart Church is a beautiful house of worship and does not need a great deal of enhancement. It is always encouraged to keep things simple, allowing the beauty of the wedding liturgy and/or Mass itself to be the focal point of attention. With any decorating you do decide to incorporate, you are welcome to do after the regular Mass on the day of your wedding. If it happens that a funeral must be celebrated on the wedding day, we will schedule the funeral early enough to allow time for decoration and wedding pictures, etc. You may want to check with the parish office to see if there is a funeral on the day you

WEDDING CEREMONY

OF
(name of bride)
AND
(name of groom)

(date of wedding)

SACRED HEART CATHOLIC CHURCH

Prelude: "God, a Woman and a Man" (solo)
"Ave Maria" (instrumental)
Processional "Canon in D" – Pachelbel
Gathering Hymn "Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee"
Opening Prayer

Liturgy of the Word

Old Testament Genesis 2:18-24
Responsorial Psalm Psalm 145:8-9,10-15,17 & 18
"The Lord is compassionate to all His creatures"
New Testament Colossians 3:12-17
Gospel Acclamation Celtic Alleluia (sung)
Gospel Reading John 15:9-12
Homily

Rite of Marriage

Exchange of Vows
Blessing and Exchange of Rings
Lighting of Unity Candle "I Will Be Here"
(Signing of License)
Prayers of the Faithful

Liturgy of the Eucharist

Preparation of Gifts "Arioso" (instrumental)
Eucharistic Prayer
Holy, Holy (sung)

SAMPLE WEDDING PROGRAMS

VOWS WITH MASS



plan to decorate so you don't show up at the church and end up having to wait before you can begin decorating.

Flowers: You may choose to provide flowers. If so, a minimal amount is sufficient. The priests will assist you in the placing of your flower bouquets. The reason for this is to ensure that nothing distracts from the Eucharistic table or from the Sacrament you are going to receive. Anything you choose to do should help to enhance God's house, not unintentionally cover or distract from.

Pew bows: If used, are to be attached by ribbon or string or some way that will not leave a mark – no tape, wire, metal, glue, etc. You are welcome to take a look at the pews prior to making arrangements for pew bows so you can see what the pew is like and find the best way to attach the bows without using tape, wire, glue, etc. The Parish also has a number of very attractive, deep red cloth "Reserved" signs that may be used for reserving pews for family and wedding party.

Candelabra: In addition to the regular altar candles, the parish has attractive candelabra. If you wish to use candelabra, we prefer you to use the ones at the parish rather than rental candelabra. The reason for this is to prevent wax dripping on the floor. The candelabra at the church are designed specifically to prevent the dripping of wax and the candles are ordered specifically with that issue in mind as well. If you do rent candelabra, please provide a plastic sheet on the floor under the candelabra to catch the drips. The liturgy coordinator and officiating priest will assist you in deciding the placement of candelabra for the same reasons as the placement of the flowers.

Aisle runners: We discourage the use of aisle runners and the use of flower petals. The aisle is already carpeted and runners tend to be dangerous.

Persons with a special role in the wedding liturgy

Clergy: Catholic priests who are your relatives or friends are welcome to officiate at your wedding in Sacred Heart Church, or to concelebrate. They will need to follow our Diocesan and Parish guidelines for liturgy. Clergy of other faiths are also welcome to participate in the wedding liturgy (for example, by proclaiming a Scripture reading, or the General Intercessions). Only a Catholic bishop, priest, or deacon may officiate in a Catholic Church.

Attendants: Two official witnesses will be needed. They are usually the maid/matron of honor and the best man. In order to keep the focus on the bride and groom, we recommend limiting the number of attendants to four pair or fewer. Please also limit any junior attendants to one pair. Flower girls and ring bearers, if you choose to have them, preferably should be at least five years of age.

Lectors: The lector(s) proclaims two Scripture readings and the General Intercessions. You may choose one, two, or three people for this role. In choosing a lector, the first consideration is that the person be capable of effectively, publicly proclaiming the Word of God. Someone who has had experience is usually best. The lector(s) should be Catholic. When you have chosen the readings the lector(s) will proclaim, it would be a good idea give them a copy to use for practice. Encourage the lector(s) to come to the rehearsal to practice.

church without all the normal distractions of people finishing pictures, and so you have time to spiritually and emotionally prepare for the ceremony. Pictures after the wedding are discouraged on Saturdays because Confessions take place in the church in the afternoon. Photographers/videographers may station themselves in the choir loft (but must remain out of the way of the musicians). Please have them check with the musicians beforehand, to see where they may stand so as not to interfere in any way with them. They may also station themselves in one of the transepts. It is asked that they refrain from being in the sanctuary during the time of the wedding. Please be discreet as to not interfere with the liturgy.

Immediately before the wedding liturgy: The bride, groom, parents, and wedding attendants should gather in the chapel where they can prepare quietly in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament. The priest will be available to lead everyone in prayer. After prayer everyone can then move to the main doors of the church to begin the procession.

Parish Hall: If you would like to use the Parish Hall as a gathering place during pictures prior to the wedding, you will need to reserve the space with the parish office. It is free to use the hall for gathering, although a refundable deposit is required. The Parish Hall would also be a great place to have your wedding reception. You can get more information, including pricing, and make your reservation by contacting the parish secretaries (225-7065).

Part III

THE WEDDING EVE AND DAY

Rehearsal: Please bring your marriage license to the officiating priest before the wedding rehearsal begins. He will also need at least three copies of your wedding program. The bride, groom, and their parents and wedding attendants should all plan to come to the rehearsal. We encourage the ushers, lector(s), and altar servers to be at the rehearsal, too. The wedding party should avail themselves to the Sacrament of Penance before the wedding.

Facilities: The bride's room is available for women of the wedding party to dress. You may wish to use the Parish Hall (not the kitchen) for light refreshments for the wedding party during the pre-wedding hours. If so, you must reserve the hall in advance. (Reserve with the parish secretaries: 225-7065). Please remove everything, and clean the bride's room, parish hall, and restrooms.

We ask all persons to keep a spirit of respect within the Lord's house. Please do not bring food or drink into the Church itself. Rice, confetti, and silly string are not permitted due to maintenance issues. Please assign someone to make sure all areas inside and outside the buildings, including the Church, are left clean and orderly – as you found them.

Use of drugs or alcohol: This is prohibited on the Church premises. Sobriety is expected of everyone taking part in the wedding liturgy.

Photography/videotaping: Please conclude the taking of pictures at least 30 minutes before the start of the wedding. This is so your guests can enter the

Musicians: The minimum number of musicians suggested for your wedding is 2 - an organist/pianist and a cantor/song leader. The musicians at a wedding are performing a ministry, so they should have a sense of prayer, leadership, and the order of the liturgy. Sacred Heart Parish has a number of excellent music ministers available if you are in need of them. Most often you are expected to pay the musicians at your wedding, unless it's a family member/friend that is carrying out this ministry as a gift to you. It is recommended that you talk with your musicians about the fees they charge, what is included in those fees, when they expect to be paid, and to fill out any contracts if they have them.

Eucharistic Ministers: For a wedding Mass, you may need an additional lay person(s) as Eucharistic minister. This minister would need to be Catholic in good standing. You can choose family or friends to perform this ministry. If you don't have anyone in mind, the church can assist you in finding someone from the parish.

Altar Servers: For a wedding Mass, it is best to have three altar servers. For a wedding outside of Mass, only one server is needed. You may choose the servers, or the parish will provide them. Children who serve should be experienced. Adults may fill this role, also. It is customary to make a gift to the servers (see *Fees* on last page).

Ushers: Ushers help people find seats, feel at home, and help them with their needs. At least two ushers are needed; four would be ideal, however. Along with greeting and seating people, the ushers are usually responsible for putting things in order in the Church after the wedding. The ushers are usually given the task of picking up anything that does not belong – e.g.,

programs, Kleenex, flowers, lost items, etc, as well as removing the unity candle and side candles. Please discuss with your ushers what you want their job to be. The priest may also give them a checklist of duties at the rehearsal.

Guest Book Attendants: If you plan to have a guest book at the door, the church has a table and a book stand. You may use either. The church does not have a tablecloth or covering that fits, however, so you would need to provide that if desired. The guest book attendant(s) should try to close the guest book approximately five minutes before the wedding time is to begin so that guests may be seated promptly and the wedding can start on time. This may be difficult if a number of guests come at the last minute.

Elements of the wedding liturgy to be chosen

Please use the booklet "Together for Life" to help you in choosing Scripture readings, the General Intercessions, the wording of the marriage promises, and the nuptial blessing. The parish liturgy coordinator can assist you if you need help.

Music: The purpose of music in a wedding liturgy is to express Christ's presence. When Christ is present, something true and beautiful happens. Music can also help to unite the congregation in prayer. (Please refer to the **Music Planning Guide for Use During the Catholic Rite of Marriage.**)

Procession: The Rite of Marriage calls for a unified procession to the sanctuary/altar. What this means or suggests is that everyone – altar servers, priest, ministers, wedding attendants, bride, groom and

whoever accompanies them – is to take part in one procession to the sanctuary/altar. It is highly recommended to have only one musical selection (sung or instrumental) for the whole procession. The focus is on the unity of the bride, groom, and assembly – all drawn to Christ's altar by the Holy Spirit.

Unity Candle: If you choose to have a unity candle, you will need to provide the center and two side candles, and holders. The priest may suggest having the side candles lit from the Paschal Candle, to show the connection between Baptism and Matrimony. Some couples have their parents or grandparents or just the mothers of the couple light the two side candles prior to the procession and wedding. This signifies the unifying support and encouragement of the two families involved for the marriage Sacrament you are about to receive.

Presentation to parents/families: Some couples choose to present flowers or another symbol of gratitude to their parents/families. This is generally done after the marriage vows, or after Holy Communion.