



Guidelines for Weddings at St. Henry Church

We are happy that you have chosen to have your wedding at St. Henry Church. Registered parishioners and their immediate families are invited to celebrate the sacrament of marriage at St. Henry Church. Please contact a priest or deacon for marriage preparations 4-6 months before setting the date for your wedding ceremony. The agreement and name of the priest/deacon must be supplied before St. Henry Church will reserve the date. Guest Priests or Deacons must be granted delegation from St. Henry Pastor, Father Mark Beckman.

Preliminary Preparations

Initiate the arrangements for your wedding with the priest/deacon. This is a diocesan regulation. Marriage preparation is a requirement. The priest/deacon will explain what is required including individual sessions with him, a marriage preparation session organized by the Diocese of Nashville, and a meeting with the parish wedding coordinator.

The Ceremony

Weddings are usually scheduled on Saturdays. Ordinary starting times are: 11:00 a.m., 2:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. Rehearsal times are 5:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m. on the Friday preceding the wedding. Dates and times should be confirmed with the priest/deacon who is to preside at the ceremony before being placed on the church calendar. After consulting with the priest/deacon, please contact Sarah Knies, Wedding Coordinator, in the parish office (615) 352-2259 or sknies@sthenry.org to reserve the date and time and receive other pertinent information. The St. Henry Wedding Guild and the priest/deacon who will witness your marriage, will direct the rehearsal and wedding, not a wedding/event coordinator.

Music

Mary Corby, Music Director, will guide you in selecting music that is reverent, beautiful and appropriate for your wedding. She will make all arrangements for musicians and vocalists. In order to maintain a worshipful atmosphere, recorded music is not allowed in the church. Payment is made separately to each individual musician prior to the event.

Fees

For more information on fees for St. Henry Church weddings, please contact Sarah Knies in the parish office (615) 352-2259; sknies@sthenry.org). Musicians fees are paid directly to the musicians. Payment is made separately to each individual prior to the event. While there is no set fee for the priest or deacon it is customary to give a gift of one's choosing. The customary stipend for an altar server is \$10.00. Please select a family member to be responsible for distributing fees.

Decorations

Flowers

Altar flowers used for the wedding are left at the Church for the weekend Masses on Saturday and Sunday following the wedding. An opportunity is given to dedicate your flowers by means of an announcement in the parish Sunday bulletin. Sarah Knies will make arrangements for an announcement. Arrange a delivery time of floral arrangements, for the altar with Sarah Knies. Arrangements are placed on the two permanent flower stands with urns located on the right and left side behind the sanctuary platform. No artificial flowers are permitted in the church. Floral arrangements are not used during the season of Lent.

In the Chapel, floral arrangements are placed on either side of the altar on stands provided by the church. One arrangement may be placed on the floor in front of the altar. The florist provides containers.

Candles

Candelabras are not permitted.

Candles are not permitted on pew ends or in the aisle.

Pew Ends

Decorations attached to pews must use string or a padded clip so wood is not scratched.

Throwing of Material

No material of any kind may be thrown in the aisle or anywhere on the church property at any time.

Flammable materials are not allowed. Bubbles may not be used anywhere at any time. Releasing balloons is against the law.

Photography/Videography

You are advised to discuss photography and video plans with Sarah Knies before signing a contract. Flash photography during the ceremony is not allowed. Photographers and videographers may take pictures from designated sections of the church and chapel. They are not allowed to roam the church or chapel once the liturgy has begun. Care must be taken not to disturb the ceremony. Following the ceremony, 45 minutes is allotted for photographing the wedding party. Photographers should plan ahead so this time limit is adhered to.

Reception

For more information on renting the Fellowship Hall, contact Eileen Miller emiller2@sthenry.org or 615-352-2259 ext. 112.