

5/7/08 St. Henry Church

Preliminary Wedding Information

If you are considering having your wedding at St. Henry Church, please review the preliminary information listed below. If additional information is needed or to schedule your wedding, please call Michelle Strebel, Wedding Coordinator, at 352-2259. She will discuss your plans with you and provide a copy of the Wedding Guidelines.

Preliminary Preparation

1. Registered members or those whose families are registered members of St. Henry Parish and Catholic non-parishioners are invited to celebrate their weddings at St. Henry Church. Catholic non-parishioners are expected to arrange for their own priest/deacon.
2. Initiate the arrangements for your wedding with the priest/deacon at least four months prior to the desired date. This is a diocesan regulation. The priest/deacon will book the wedding. If a priest/deacon who is not a member of the St. Henry Church clergy staff will officiate at the wedding, the bride and groom should contact this clergy person before any plans may be finalized. The clergy person requests permission from the pastor to officiate at St. Henry Parish.
3. Marriage preparation is a requirement. The priest/deacon who will witness your marriage is responsible for both the preparation and the paperwork required by the Church and Diocese of Nashville. He will explain what is required including individual sessions with him, a marriage preparation session organized by the Diocese of Nashville, and communication with the parish wedding coordinator, Michelle Strebel. Upon completion of the marriage preparation class, a certificate may be obtained from the State which entitles you to a substantial discount for the marriage license fee.
4. Each Catholic to be married is required to furnish a baptismal certificate issued within the past six months. The priest/deacon will inform you of other required documents.

Wedding and Rehearsal Date and Time

Weddings are usually scheduled on Saturdays. Ordinary starting times are:

11:00 a.m. (If the Fellowship Hall is used for a reception, it must be vacated by 3 p.m. to allow parking for confessions and 5 p.m. Mass)

2:00 p.m. (The Fellowship Hall is not available for a reception following a 2 p.m. wedding because of parking requirements for 5 p.m. Mass)

7:00 p.m. or 7:30 p.m.

Only one 11:00 a.m. or 2:00 p.m. wedding will be scheduled on a Saturday. Only two weddings

are scheduled on a weekend. Parish events take priority, so certain dates and times may not be available.

In scheduling a 2:00 p.m. wedding in the chapel, please be aware that Reconciliation begins at 3:30 p.m. The chapel must be vacated by 3:15 p.m.

Rehearsal times are 5:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m. of the Friday preceding the wedding. One hour is allotted for a rehearsal. It is important for members of the wedding party to be on time for the rehearsal. Musicians do not attend the rehearsal.

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 call Michelle Strebel, Wedding Coordinator, in the parish office (352-2259; mstrebel@sthenry.org) to reserve the date and time and provide other pertinent information.

Weddings are not scheduled on church Holy Days, major holidays, Good Friday or Holy Saturday. During the liturgical seasons of Advent and Lent, weddings are to be low-key in keeping with the spirit of these times of the liturgical year.