

Location, Visiting Clergy, and Time:

Weddings generally take place in the parish of the bride or the groom. The parish where the wedding will take place will usually take care of the marriage preparation process and the completion of necessary documents. In some circumstances the preparation can take place elsewhere with the wedding occurring at St. James. Also, if you live here we can do the preparation even if your wedding will be elsewhere. Weddings outside the parish are almost never granted. See question 5 below under "Frequently Asked Questions" for more information about that.

Couples may request a priest or deacon whom they know from outside St. James to witness their wedding at St. James Catholic Church. We will need to know of this in advance to process the necessary permissions and delegations that they will need to witness the wedding.

Weddings typically take place at 12:30 pm on Saturdays. The church will be reserved from 12:00 (for set up and decorating) through 2:00 (to allow for photos & cleanup). It is possible to have weddings on Friday night in rare circumstances. To reserve your date and time, we ask a \$150 deposit to be placed at the office to do so. We do that because we want to make sure that the dates are truly scheduled and reserved. Any deposit will be applied to your donation schedule explained toward the end of this brochure.

Music:

Music, though optional, is an important element for most couples, and every effort must be made to have appropriate and good music in keeping with the religious nature of ceremony. Therefore, it is not permitted to have prerecorded music or music that is secular in nature including secular music that may have some religious component. Some instrumental music that might not be explicitly religious can be permitted if it is appropriate to the occasion. It is your obligation to provide an outline of the music you wish to use at the wedding well in advance for approval.

A list of quality musicians that can be used is given below. You are welcome to include musicians of your choice as long as they are capable of fulfilling the basic functions of a religious ceremony. If you use musicians other than those listed below, it is required to have a St. James musician there to help with the setup of the sound system and microphones. You are also responsible for the compensation of all musicians and will need to negotiate any fees directly with them.

St. James musicians available for weddings:

English: Kathy Bernards	971-237-1558 vocals/piano/organ
English: Colleen Johnson	414-510-7058 vocals/piano
Spanish: Engracia Arellano	503-474-2940 vocals/guitar
Spanish: Efren Plancarte	503-474-7866 vocals/guitar/piano

Mass or Without a Mass?

The celebration of marriage between two Catholics should normally take place during Mass. In circumstances where the marriage is between a Catholic and non-Catholic or the vast majority of the guests are not Catholic, the celebration of marriage outside of Mass (without the prayers of the Eucharist and distribution of Communion) may be a good option. In a marriage between a Catholic and a non-Catholic, the marriage is normally celebrated outside of Mass.

Also, if you were already married civilly, your church wedding is actually a Convalidation ceremony, where your legal marriage is con-validated to become sacramental marriage.

Rehearsal:

Rehearsals are 5:00 pm the evening before the wedding. However, this can change depending on the schedule of the priest or deacon and the availability of the church. Rehearsals include: the groom and bride, groomsmen and bridesmaids, ring and object bearers, readers, and liturgical ministers. Musicians may use the rehearsal to become familiar with the ceremony. For some simpler weddings a rehearsal may not be necessary.

Photography:

Photos and video are optional. The couple may secure their own photographers/videographers. Care must be taken to ensure the sacredness of the event. For example a photographer should not enter the altar area or be in the way. Flash isn't really needed since the church is well lit. Photos may also be taken before and after the wedding service, but please be attentive to the time constraints due to prior and later events.

Decorations:

St. James is a church that is beautiful in its simplicity but you may want to provide some further decorations such as pew bows, aisle runners, and/or flowers. These are all optional, and must not damage church furnishings or be a danger to others.

Please do not use anything that could or would stain, damage, or leave markings or residues. If you have an idea of what you would like to do for decorations, check with the pastor to see if there are other things that might want to be considered.

Timeliness:

Timeliness is of critical importance because of other events and liturgies that are often scheduled. Therefore, please be ready 15 minutes before the ceremony starts.

Bride's Room:

St James has a small bride's room with a full-length mirror. However, this room is also used for Reconciliation. Since space is very limited, it would likely be more convenient for the bridal party to come as dressed and prepared as possible. The groom and his attendants should also come to the church dressed.

Clean Up:

Because the Church is used for other services on the weekends, we ask that the church and other facilities be fully cleaned and cleared by 15 minutes prior to our next event. For example if your wedding is at 1:00 it must typically be totally cleared and cleaned by 2:45. Please assign someone for clean-up as we don't have a janitor during events.

Recommended Church Offering:

Use of Church & marriage coordination procedures: \$500