

1. *Is it true that a divorced person can't marry in the Catholic Church and are "excommunicated"?*

No, neither assertion is true. It is true that Catholics and non-Catholics will need to be "free to marry". This means that any former marriages must be resolved through annulment. Please contact the priest or the deacon for this.

2. *Can we be married outside the church?*

This used to be easier than it is today. Today only the Archbishop can give the exception and he typically does not do it. This is because a Catholic wedding is a religious sacrament that is done in the house of God. However, reception afterwards may be done somewhere else.

3. *Do you have to be Catholic to get married?*

At least one member of the marriage party will need to be Catholic but both do not have to be. Keep in mind that the prayers and the focus of the wedding are Catholic in nature. Also, if the non-Catholic party wishes to become Catholic, the priest or deacon will gladly help you with this.

4. *Can we have dancing processions, Elvis giving away the bride, Gothic themes, or involved animals?*

The reception might be a better place for these types of things. The church wedding is a religious event inside a sacred space. We want to maintain an atmosphere that is festive, yet appropriate, while maintaining the spirituality and intention of the rite.