

IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY CATHOLIC CHURCH WEDDING DAY GUIDELINES

PRACTICES NOT ALLOWED:

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1. Practices not allowed are:
 - A. The “Unity Candle”, ordinarily, is not used because it is not part of the Catholic ritual. Their consent symbolize the unity of the bride and groom during the wedding ceremony.
 - B. No one announces, “The Bride is coming”, nor are couples allowed to “Jump the Broom”, during the wedding ceremony.

DECORATIONS:

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1. Nothing which is part of the church décor may be removed.
 2. One may place flowers on the carpet, so long as the arrangements do not leak, but such must be removed as soon as the wedding is over. Only live flowers are permitted.
 3. Bows maybe tied to the pews, but they are not to be taped to the pews. They are to be removed after the wedding.
 4. If additional candles are used, they must be drip less candles and be placed on the carpet only.
 5. During Lent, no additional flowers or candles are permitted.
 6. No runners are allowed because they pose a safety hazard.
 7. No rice, confetti, flower petals, and other such articles may be “thrown or used” in the church or outside of the church.
 8. If a wedding arch is used, it must be placed behind the last row of pews
 9. **No beverages (alcohol or non-alcoholic), food of any kind, gum or cigarettes are allowed in the church prior to, during, or after the wedding. This includes the rehearsal. No one will be allowed to participate in this sacrament under the influence of alcohol or drugs.**
 10. Couples are asked to have four ushers, twenty-one and older, available to monitor the four entries of the church and to remove all Kleenex, pins, needles, programs or trash which may have remained in the pews or on the floor.

WEDDING PARTY:

- _____ 1. Only seven (7) couples or seven (7) individuals, age six and older are allowed. This means either seven couples or seven single people or a combination of such is permitted (e.g., a flower girl – if she walks alone- is one of the seven. If she walks with a ring bearer, they are one of the seven). There will be no exceptions to the allowed number of units for the wedding. The bride/groom are not part of this number.

PHOTOGRAPHERS/VIDEOGRAHERS:

- _____ 1. Photographers, both still and video cameras, are allowed during the liturgy. However, they are not allowed in the sanctuary. Video cameras are to remain stationary because they may interfere with our sound system.

REVERENTIAL SILENCE:

- _____ 1. All participants are asked to maintain “reverential silence” in the church prior to, during, and after the wedding rehearsal and the wedding, being mindful that the real presence of the Lord is present in the tabernacle.
- _____ 2. No cell phones are allowed during the wedding.

We have read these regulations and we agree to observe them when we celebrate the Sacrament of Matrimony at Immaculate Heart of Mary Catholic Church. We shall inform our wedding party of this policy and of the necessity to adhere to such and to be on time. We understand that any damage to the property of Immaculate Heart of Mary will be billed to the bride and groom.

We understand that should unforeseeable circumstances of a catastrophic nature occur (i.e. hurricane or the like) the wedding will not take place as scheduled due to this unforeseeable event.

Furthermore, we the undersigned understand that withholding information or distorting information can prohibit celebration of the Sacrament of Matrimony from taking place.

GROOM

BRIDE

DATE