

Getting Married at St. Peter the Apostle Church

A wedding is a special time for a bride, groom, and their families, plus the entire parish family. This is a time for special grace and celebration!

St. Peter the Apostle Church welcomes our parishioners to the Sacrament of Marriage. If you are engaged and planning a wedding, please contact the Liturgist on ext. 201 at least six months in advance of your wedding. We strongly suggest that you get your date approved by the church before you sign the contact with the Reception Hall. All marriages must get approval by the pastor and the date will be entered into the calendar after that approval. Please note that there are certain times during the liturgical year that weddings may not be performed, which includes all Sundays.

Following is a list of common questions and answers and our requirements.

Neither my finance or I belong to St. Peter's, may I marry in your church?

Our church is reserved for registered parishioners. If you are not registered and live in the boundaries of St. Peter's, you may consider establishing a relationship with us before requesting a wedding. You will need to be a registered parishioner a minimum of six (6) months before planning your wedding.

What is the first step to getting married at St. Peter's?

Make an appointment with the Liturgist. You will fill out a Pre-marital Questioner and wait for approval by the pastor. At that time, you will receive an information packet.

What are some questions on the Questioner so that I am prepared for this first initial meeting?

These questions are for BOTH bride and groom: Name, address, and phone, date and town of birth, whether you are baptized and confirmed; whether you are single, divorced, or widowed, Social security #, occupation, Parent's name and mother's maiden name. What date/time you would like for your wedding, Legal names for best man and maid/matron of honor

I would really like my ceremony outside or in the Reception Hall so all my guests may attend the ceremony. Is this possible?

The Catholic priest may only marry couples in a church.

What are the other requirements?

You will need to get your baptismal certificates as soon as possible if you were not baptized at St. Peter's. Contact the church of your baptism for this. (We do not accept certificates from your actual baptism) The church of your baptism will include any other sacraments received on the certificate. The date on the Baptism Certificate should not be more than six (6) months from your wedding date. If your finance is not Catholic, but a Christian Denomination, you still may marry in the Church.

You and your finance will attend a Wedding Workshop facilitated at another parish. St. Peter does not offer a workshop. Suggestions: St. Isidore Parish in Bloomingdale (630) 529-3045 or St. Walter Parish in Roselle (630) 894-2461.

Call the Liturgist to schedule taking your FOCCUS Test. After this is completed you will then meet with the priest whom is marrying you to discuss the results.

You will get your marriage license at the DuPage County Clerk's Office Wheaton within 60 days of your wedding (not before 60 days). After the Wedding, Father will sign the license and mail it back to DuPage County. The county will then mail you a copy of the license. We do not give you a copy of the license at your wedding.

You will meet with the Music Director ext. 207 to choose music for your wedding.

How much does it cost to marry at St. Peter's?

\$200.00 for the use of the church
\$150.00 for the organist/music director
\$100.00 for the cantor
\$50.00 for the wedding coordinator
\$10 +\$10 for two altar servers
\$50.00 Clean-up Fee (if applicable)

What if my friends are musicians and I don't want/need to use St. Peter's?

Any musicians that will take the place of the Organist/Music Director must meet with the Music Director or Liturgist. A \$50.00 fee will be required for that consultation. You may use your friends to cantor, play an Instrument. You are responsible to pay them directly.

How old can the flower girl and ring bearer must be?

It is recommended that they be at least 5 -years old.

My mom really likes the idea of the unity candle. Can we have one?

Yes

How can I decorate the church?

St. Peter's has an Art and Environment committee that decorates our church according to the liturgical seasons. Those decorations and plants will not be removed for weddings. You may bring in sprays of flowers, but depending on the season, you may not need to spend the money for that. Pew bows are acceptable. We do not allow rice or bird seed to be thrown, but we do allow flower petals, bubbles, balloons, etc.

Photographers and Videographers Guidelines

Photographer and Videographers are given a contract so that they will follow our guidelines. We understand it is their job to capture the best pictures for you, but they may not obstruct or distract from the ceremony. All cameras must be behind the carpeted area – past the votive candles on the side of the church. Cameras may not be in the aisles or in front during the procession or Sign of Peace. They may stand in a pew. Once the procession is finished, the photographer may only go up 1/2 the aisle. Aisles must be cleared at the time of Communion. The use of the choir loft is acceptable. The use of the sacristy door is acceptable. Absolutely, no cameras in the Eucharistic Chapel or Sanctuary area.

Flash photography is allowed, but no extra lights. You will be able to take pictures inside the church directly after the wedding and all picture taking must be completed by 3:45 PM on Saturdays. All equipment must be packed by 4:00 PM because our church is used every Saturday for confession starting at 4:00 PM.