



PREPARING FOR MARRIAGE



ST. THERESE CATHOLIC CHURCH
901 N. TAHOE TRAIL
SIOUX FALLS, SD 57110

CONGRATULATIONS on your upcoming wedding!

The Parish of St. Therese is happy for you, and wants to help make your wedding day a sacred and memorable event. This pamphlet will give you some guidelines to help in planning your wedding ceremony at St. Therese.

Marriage is a sacrament centering around both the couple and the assembly invited to witness the celebration. The wedding liturgy should invite the entire community to pray and praise God!



† WEDDING PREPARATIONS †

- Set date with the Pastor
- Pre-marriage Preparations
 - A) Private meeting with the Pastor
 - B) Engaged Encounter Weekend or City-wide Marriage Classes
 - C) Meeting with Music Coordinator
- Take pre-marriage inventory (FOCUS) and discuss results with Fr. O'Dell and/or Marriage sponsor couple.
- Fill out marriage papers. A copy of your Baptismal Certificates are required and can be obtained from the church where you were baptized. Please bring your baptismal certificates to your pre-marriage inventory meeting.
- Each couple will receive a booklet containing prayers and scripture readings which they may use in planning the ceremony with the priest.
- Bring your marriage license and program to the rehearsal.

Weddings are generally scheduled on Friday evenings or Saturday afternoons. The latest a Friday wedding ceremony or rehearsal can be is 6:00pm. Our Parish Saturday evening Mass is at 4:00pm, therefore the latest a Saturday wedding ceremony can be is 1:30pm. Wedding receptions must be held elsewhere. The church will be open at 9:00am Saturday morning. The church must be cleaned up and vacated by 3:00pm. Please use only the front doors for entry and exit (east side) - please do not walk through the office area.





MUSIC

Contact our Coordinator of Music, Lisa Roers at 929-9009.

ENVIRONMENT

- We suggest restraint. Please no flowers on the altar. Flowers can be placed next to the tabernacle or in front of the ambo. No trellis allowed. No flower pedals, leaves, seeds, rice, or confetti allowed. Bubbles are ok.
- Please do not put decorations on the pews that will damage or mar the wood. Tape **is not** to be used. Pew hooks are available.
- Please no candelabras or candles allowed, except the Unity Candle
- Please use care if choosing to have an aisle runner. The Church floor along with a runner can be slick and therefore dangerous.
- No animals allowed in the church or building.
- Decorating the church can take place after the rehearsal until 8:30pm or prior to the wedding ceremony.
- Please consult with the Pastor regarding placement of flowers/ decorations.

PHOTOGRAPHS/VIDEO

- Please no flash bulbs during the ceremony.
- If possible, pictures should be done prior to wedding Liturgy.
- Please make sure video cameras do not distract from the ceremony.
- Please consult with the Pastor regarding placement of video cameras and photographers during the ceremony.

SOUND SYSTEM

Only St. Therese Music Staff are allowed to play the piano and run the sound system for the ceremony.

DRESSING ROOMS

- We will have “Bride” and “Groom” rooms set up for dressing.
- The restrooms are located near the nursery.
- The kitchen can be used for snacks and drinks prior to the ceremony—no food or drink is allowed in the dressing rooms.
- Absolutely no alcoholic beverages are permitted in the church or on church property; and our building is smoke free!
- Due to insurance purposes, the wedding dress may not be stored at the church.

HOUSEKEEPING

- You are responsible for cleaning up the dressing rooms, kitchen, and taking down all decorations.
- No confetti, bird seed, rice, or any other items that could be viewed as dangerous or difficult to clean up are allowed. Bubbles are allowed.

REIMBURSEMENT SCHEDULE

All Catholic Parishes in the City of Sioux Falls have a uniform policy about reimbursement for services . The fees cover marriage prep, the use of facilities, and utilities.

The reimbursement schedule is as follows:

- \$50.00 for Marriage Prep with the Pastor
- \$300.00 for parishioners or children of active parishioners of St. Therese Parish.
- \$500.00 for non-parishioners.
- \$75.00 IF a rehearsal dinner takes place at the church

Fees are due prior to setting the date on the parish calendar.

The above reimbursement schedule does not relate to the priest or musicians. Any gift to the priest is left up to the couple. Musicians have set fees and arrangements for payment must be made with them.