

FAQs Celebrating Weddings at St. Anthony de Padua Catholic Church

What are the available wedding times?

11:00 am and 2:00 pm on Saturdays. Weddings are not scheduled during Advent or Lent.

What are the rehearsal times?

5:00 or 6:00 pm the day before the wedding. The first person to select gets their preferred time. Rehearsals take approximately 45 minutes to 1 hour

What is our timing on the wedding day for the church?

You have a total of 3 hours. Arrival can be 1.5 hours prior to the start of the ceremony and the church must be cleared of all people, belongings and equipment by 1.5 hours after the wedding starts. So for the 2:00 pm wedding the Wedding Party can arrive at 12:30, the wedding starts at 2:00 and everything is concluded by 3:30 p.m.

What attire is expected?

St. Anthony de Padua Catholic Church does have an attire policy. Because your wedding liturgy is a sacred celebration taking place in a consecrated place of divine worship, all participants in the wedding party and all liturgical ministers are asked to adhere to the policy. Ladies wearing dresses which are low cut, strapless or with very thin straps should cover with a shawl, lace jacket or other appropriate covering. Men usually wear tuxedos, but dress slacks and dress shirts are acceptable.

Will someone meet with me to tell me more?

The lead coordinator will e-mail you a detailed packet of materials regarding weddings. She also will meet with you two months prior to the wedding to detail the Liturgy for the priest and to answer any questions.

Will I have any help on my wedding day?

St. Anthony de Padua Catholic Church has two teams of coordinators working with the weddings. One of the teams is randomly assigned to each wedding. They conduct the rehearsals and are there for you the entire time your preparations and wedding takes place. They meet with you to finalize the liturgy and take notes on all the logistics of your wedding day. They also set up everything for the church, pin boutonnières and distribute personal flowers, troubleshoot, and make sure the wedding starts on time.

When can the photographer take pictures?

The photographer can begin taking pictures 60 minutes prior to the wedding ceremony. Because the photography in the church has to be finished by 12:30 or 3:30, you will want to take the most important shots that you want done in the church first. You are welcome to continue to take pictures in the Narthex or outside the church before or after the times. Photography will be suspended in the church ½ hour before the start of the ceremony to accommodate seating of the guests.

Who else can take pictures?

To maintain a sacred atmosphere during your wedding, and because you are hiring a professional photographer to capture your wedding ceremony, the use of cameras by the wedding party or your guests is not permitted once you and your future spouse have reached the altar.

When can our florist decorate the church?

Florists can start decorating the church 60 minutes prior to the start of your ceremony. Your packet of materials will have guidelines for your florist. As a safety precaution, aisle runners are not allowed. Petals, fresh or silk, cannot be dropped inside the church.

Can children be in our wedding?

Children who are at least 5 years old may be flower girls or ring bearers.

How do we choose music?

At the Bride/Groom/Parent meeting you will be given a packet on wedding music with an accompanying CD. Please review that and then make an appointment with the Director of Sacred Music, Bryan Finkelstein bfinkelstein@stasb.org. He will help you with your selections and find the appropriate musicians for your celebration. This meeting should be at least two months or earlier prior to the wedding.

How do we plan our liturgy?

The selections for your liturgy will be taken exclusively from the "Together for Life" booklet. The booklet is available from the parish secretary, or your priest. There is a 4 page pull out section in the back. It is a worksheet and you will need to fill all sections in completely.

At least two months before your wedding set up an appointment with your wedding coordinator, who will walk and talk you through those selections. It is helpful if you have met with Bryan first as there are music questions. The wedding coordinator will also give you a sheet with final reminders and reassure you of the entire process.

Who can serve as our Liturgical Ministers?

For a Nuptial mass, all readers and your cantor must be Catholic and able to proclaim the word of God. For a liturgy outside of a mass, a Christian able to proclaim the word of God may also perform this task.

At least one of your Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion must be commissioned from St. Anthony de Padua if you are offering the Precious Blood. Your gift bearers for a Nuptial Mass can be any family member or close friend.

What are the fees associated with the church?

Church Fee: No cost to parishioners or children of parishioners. \$250 to non-parishioners

Wedding Coordinating Team: \$100

Music Planning: \$50 given at the time of the planning session. The fee is applicable to the performance fee if Bryan Finkelstein is a musician.

Musicians/Organist: Fees vary but range from \$75 to \$150 per musician
Priest: Your discretion. Suggested amount is \$150.
Servers \$10 each

If I have more questions who can I contact? You can call the parish office at (574) 282-2308