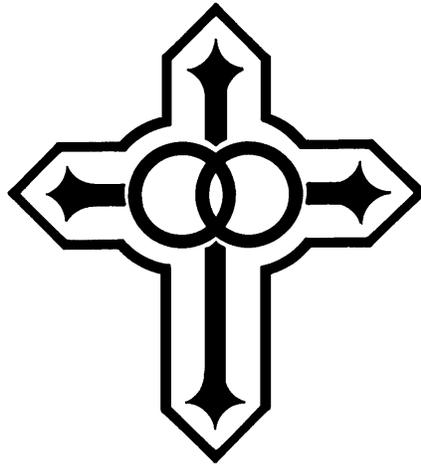


The Celebration
of the
Sacrament of Matrimony



within
the Catholic Community
of
St. Augustine Parish
Lebanon, Kentucky

St. Augustine Parish
235 South Spalding Avenue
Lebanon, Kentucky 40033

(270) 692-3019

PASTORAL MINISTERS

Reverend Gerald L. Bell
Reverend James M. Reinhaart
Deacon Joe Dant

MEMBERS OF THE PARISH

A person who wishes to marry at St. Augustine Church should be a registered and participating member or the son or daughter of a registered and participating member of the parish.

MARRIAGE PREPARATION

It is required for those planning marriage to phone the parish office at least six (6) months in advance to schedule an appointment with a church minister to discuss their plans, and to reserve a **tentative** date. Following the Archdiocesan directives, all couples are required to receive pre-marriage instructions. Various options are available, details of which are to be discussed.

LITURGY OF THE CEREMONY

The Marriage Rite:

- 1) Marriage is a sacrament of the Church.
- 2) The Rite of Marriage is an act of worship on the part of the couple and their guests who come to ask God's blessing on the couple's life together.
- 3) The center of the Marriage Rite is the solemn exchange of vows by the couple.

ECUMENICAL MARRIAGE

For couples who enter an ecumenical marriage, we welcome, indeed encourage, the minister of the non-Catholic party to take part in the ceremony, if you wish. In the spirit of Ecumenism it's highly recommended that the solemn exchange of vows not include Mass, but in the context of the Liturgy of the Word.

WEDDING TIMES

Weddings may be scheduled at 7:00 p.m. on Friday evening, 11:00 a.m. through 2:00 p.m. on Saturday at the availability of the Presiding priest. The Wedding Party and all decorations must be removed from the Church by 3:45 p.m. on Saturday. (Parish Confessions begin at 3:45 p.m. on Saturdays in the Church.)

COUPLE'S CHURCH STEWARDSHIP

St. Augustine is a Stewardship Parish. Meaning in gratitude to God we return a portion of our blessings to God. Members of St. Augustine Parish are encouraged to contribute 5% of the wedding expenses or a \$200.00 stipend to the Church as a sign of good stewardship. Couples who are not members of St. Augustine are to contribute a \$600.00 stipend for the use of the Church. Thank you.

MUSIC/ORGANISTS

All music and ceremonies should reflect the reverence and dignity of the occasion, intensifying and enhancing the Christian meaning of the liturgical service. **No** recorded music is to be used in the ceremony, or before.

Customarily the Parish organist plays at weddings at St. Augustine. Selection of songs and instruments to be used at the wedding **must be** done in consultation with, either Mrs. Janet George (692-6654), or Mrs. Sherry Howard (692-0736), at least **six (6) months prior** to the wedding. Musician's fee is to be discussed with the musician.

Any other singer/key board person must be discussed and approved at initial contact with music person.

RICE, CONFETTI, ETC.

Because it is a safety issue the throwing of potpourri, rice, confetti, bird seed, **flower petals**, balloons etc., inside or outside of Church property is prohibited. This custom, non-Christian in origin, is not appropriate for the Catholic celebration of the sacrament of marriage.

THE REHEARSAL

We ask that the following be attended prior to the rehearsal:

- 1) The marriage license is to be obtained and given to the Parish Office at least a week before the wedding. It may be obtained anytime up to 30 days before the wedding from the County Clerks Office of the Courthouse.
- 2) The members of the bridal party should be paired in advance of the rehearsal.

- 3) Couple's Church Stewardship, or stipend, is to be honored one month before the wedding either in person, or by mail (St. Augustine, 235 South Spalding Ave., Lebanon, Ky. 40033).
- 4) If a program for the wedding is done it must be brought to the parish office one week before the wedding.

It is necessary that the bridal party arrive on time for the rehearsal and the wedding as the church is heavily scheduled and delay causes inconvenience to others.

PHOTOGRAPHER

In honor of the sacredness of the Marriage ceremony and the couple, photographers and videographers are to be as inconspicuous and as professional as possible.

You may have the ceremony videotaped, but the videographer must use only the available light in Church, no floodlights are allowed.

All video cameras & cameras must be stationary at one of the designed places in the Church. (Please see diagram on back page)

BEFORE THE CEREMONY

Due to the seriousness of the event (Cannon Law governing marriage), absolutely no drinking of alcohol or taking of drugs will be tolerated before or during the rehearsal, as well as, before or during the wedding. Anyone believed by the pastoral minister to have engaged in such behavior will not be allowed to participate in the ceremony--**this includes the bride and groom.**

AFTER THE CEREMONY

The bridal couple is responsible for arranging that the church be left clean & in order immediately after the wedding. Assign this task to someone. All must be out of the Church by 3:45 p.m. on Saturday.

THE APPENDIX

MATURITY OF PARTICIPANTS

Maturity (age) of those participating in the wedding party, i.e. flower girl/ring bearer, should be carefully considered. While it may be nice to involve young children, the wedding couple is the focus. Children will be children. Such has often proven a challenge and a distraction to the celebration. Please weigh this seriously.

If one can't sit independently in the pew and stand attentively at the front of Church, he/she needs to be immediately met and taken by a guardian.

DECORATIONS

Couples planning to be married at St. Augustine's should take into consideration the liturgical season when choosing their wedding date. This includes Advent, Lent, Christmas and Easter. The decorations for these seasons are to remain in place, during the wedding.

(All window, aisle and outside decorations used for the wedding must be removed immediately after the ceremony.)

FLORISTS

Arrangements are to be made with the florist or decorator of your choice. It may be to your advantage to check to see if any other weddings are scheduled for the same weekend and if it would be possible to share the expense.

No floral arrangements or candles are to be placed on the table of the altar and the area around it should not be cluttered with plants, etc. All flowers, etc. are to be delivered to the back sacristy area where there is limited space for temporary use.

The North Sacristy is an archives room and should be treated as such. Nothing is to be stored there.

According to the Liturgical Commission of the Archdiocese of Louisville, "Only natural flowers and plants are to be used." Therefore, no silk or plastic flowers are to be used on the altars or in the Sanctuary at any time. Live plants are to be handled with care, kept away from the candle flames and returned to their original position in the church.

CANDLES

The Altar Society has decorated Unity Candles available at a cost of \$22.00. Also a charge of \$15.00 is for the large candelabras on the back altar if lit. Plain Unity Candles are provided free of charge.

AISLE RUNNER

The aisle runner is to be obtained by the wedding party either through their florist or from a laundry service. The aisle runner should be brought to the Church at 9:00 a.m. A member of the altar society will secure it in the aisle. The wedding party is responsible for the aisle runner after the wedding.

IMPORTANT REMINDER

Do not allow anyone to use glue, scotch tape, nails, staples or anything that might leave residue or mar the finish on altars or pews. It is preferable to use rubber bands or string if it is necessary to hold decorations in place.

DRESSING ROOM

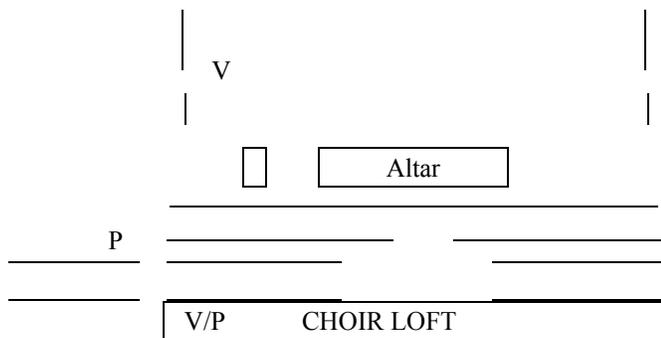
There is a small bridal room in the church itself. If you wish to utilize a larger room please contact the Parish Office to discuss availability and rental. (parishioners-\$50.00 deposit; non-parishioner \$50.00 deposit & \$50.00 rental) Absolutely, no drinks or food are to be brought into the Church.

YOUR COOPERATION IN THESE MATTERS IS EXPECTED. THE PROPER CARE OF THE CHURCH IS THE RESPONSIBILITY OF ALL WHO USE IT.

MARRIAGE GUIDELINES CHECK LIST

- ___ Contact the Priest or Deacon at least **six months** prior to the **tentative** wedding date.
- ___ If you are interested in renting the Parish Center for your reception a deposit and insurance payment is required **at the time** the center is booked. Please see the parish secretary for available dates.
- ___ Must receive Pre-Marriage instructions through one of the Archdiocesan Programs, and bring certificate to church office.
- ___ Contact Musicians at least **6 months** prior to wedding.
- ___ Couple Stewardship: A contribution of 5% of the cost of the wedding or \$200.00 for parish members, or \$600.00 for non members of St. Augustine, as a sign of good stewardship, is to be paid **one month before wedding**. Please send the contribution to Saint Augustine Church, 235 South Spalding Ave., Lebanon, KY. 40033.
- ___ Get wedding license from County Clerk office **within a month** of wedding date and bring it to the parish office a week before the wedding.
- ___ The balance on the rent of the Parish Center is due **two weeks** before the event.
- ___ Bring the final printed wedding program sheet **a week** before the wedding.
- ___ Please make every effort to be on time for rehearsal and wedding.

DIAGRAM



P - PHOTOGRAPHER

V - VIDEOGRAPHER

Revised July 2008