



Planning Your Wedding

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Introduction

The Catholic Church's Marriage Preparation Program for the Diocese of Tulsa

The Church, in her pastoral concern for persons preparing for matrimony, wishes to emphasize the sacred and serious nature of the marriage covenant. As love joins man to woman, so are they bound more closely to God.

The following **Marriage Preparation Program** has been adopted by the Diocese of Tulsa to help the engaged couple view their marriage as a sacramental way of life rooted in their faith commitment to Jesus Christ.

Readiness for Marriage

1. Engaged couples are to notify their parish priest at least **six months** prior to their proposed wedding date.
2. Approval for a marriage in the Church when one of the persons is **under 18** can be granted only by the express permission of the Bishop of the Diocese of Tulsa. This express permission is granted only in the most rare circumstances and only after the parents of the minor have been interviewed, given their permission and there has been an evaluation by a professional counselor. If either or both of persons planning a wedding is or are **not yet 21**, the parents are consulted and an evaluation by a professional counselor is to be conducted before a wedding date can be arranged.
3. Pre-marital **pregnancy** is an important factor which needs to be considered as a couple prepares for marriage. A six month process of pre-marital preparation will be required in the process of preparation for a sacramental marriage.
4. The wedding will ordinarily be celebrated in the parish of the bride or in the parish of the Catholic party. Permission may be granted for the ceremony to take place in a **Non-Catholic church** or chapel. Catholic weddings are not permitted in secular places.
5. In special circumstances, engaged couples may be referred to an approved marriage consultant for counseling.

Marriage Preparation

Personal visits with the parish priest and participation in at least one of the two marriage preparation programs are required for all engaged couples.

- **Pre-Cana**

A program presented by the Diocese of Tulsa Family Office most months of the year. The priest will explain this. Call the **Family Life Office** at **307-4939** or log on to familylife.office@dioceseoftulsa.org to register and more information.

- **Engaged Encounter**

In depth encounter weekend during which personal feelings toward marriage are explored. Available in the Diocese of Wichita.

- **FOCCUS**

This communication assessment is expected of all couples preparing for marriage at St. Pius X. Couples make arrangements through the Parish Office to complete the assessment. Results are then discussed either with the priest who is preparing the couple, a sponsor couple or any approved licensed counselor.

Typical Reasons a Wedding Date may not be able to be set

1. One or both parties may have previous marital bond.
2. Non-practice of the Catholic faith by a Catholic party.
3. Lack of appreciation for the spiritual and sacramental aspects of marriage as assessed by the priest in personal interview, in consultation with parents, or in pre-marriage counseling and evaluation.
4. Refusal to participate in the Marriage Preparation Program or in pre-marital counseling.
5. Lack of time for sufficient pre-marriage assessment, evaluation, counseling, and preparation.

For further information write or call:

Family Life Office
P.O. Box 690240
Tulsa, OK 74169-0240

Telephone: 307-4939

Policies for use of St. Pius X Church

The church is available to Catholics for Catholic weddings.

• **Date & Time**

Dates and times for weddings may only be set by the pastor, associate pastors and/or deacons assigned to the parish. Weddings at St. Pius X Church are generally celebrated on Saturdays from 10am-2pm, or at 7pm on Saturdays. Other dates or times may be available with the permission of the pastor or associate pastor. Dates and times should be reserved six months in advance.

Catholic non-parishioners may request a wedding at St. Pius X Church through their own priest or deacon. Permission for such weddings and guest priests and/or deacons can only be given by the pastor and/or associate pastors or deacons of St. Pius X Church. It is the responsibility of the priest or deacon who will be the official witness of the wedding to insure that all policies and requirements of a Catholic wedding in the Diocese of Tulsa are met. All necessary documents are to be on file in the St. Pius X parish office 30 days before the wedding date.

- **Fees**

St. Pius X Parishioners: The Church and Chapel are available at no cost to active parishioners.

Catholic non-St. Pius X Parishioners: There is a fee for the expenses incurred for use of the Church or Chapel. Consult the fee schedule.

Clergy - Please refer to the fee schedule.

- **Church Hours**

The church will be open 2 hours in advance of the scheduled wedding time. The air conditioning or heating will be turned on at that time.

- **Bride's Room**

The Bride's Room is available for use before the wedding ceremony. The room will be opened when the Church doors are opened. There is ***NO SMOKING, EATING, OR DRINKING*** either in the Bride's Room or in the back of the church. ***NO ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES*** are ever permitted.

It is the responsibility of the bride and her family to clean up the trash, etc. immediately after the wedding. There is often more than one wedding on a given weekend and each bride has a right to expect the Bride's Room to be in good condition when she and her party arrive.

- **Groom & Groomsmen**

The groom and groomsmen are to come to the church already dressed in the attire they plan to wear during the wedding ceremony. There are no rooms available for the men to change clothes. The men may use the Sacristy to wait before the wedding. ***NO SMOKING, EATING, OR DRINKING*** is allowed in the Sacristy. ***NO ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES*** are ever permitted.

- **Flowers and Decorations**

Couples are free to choose their own florist. Movement of the Church furniture and decorations of the Church is at the sole discretion of St. Pius X Church staff. Please note that no tape/permanent fasteners may be used on the pews or other sanctuary furniture or doors. It is the responsibility of the florist/bridal party to remove all decorations from the sanctuary immediately after the ceremony. Live flowers may be left in the sanctuary as a gift to the parish.

- **Photographers and Video**

Photographers are expected to be familiar with the expectations of Catholic liturgy. Discrete photos – without flash – or video may be permitted during the ceremony as long as they are neither disruptive nor distracting.

- **Rice, Etc.**

Throwing objects or substances (rice, confetti, bird seed or bubbles) is **STRICTLY FORBIDDEN** in or on Church buildings or grounds.

- **Rehearsal**

- The rehearsal is usually scheduled the evening prior to the wedding.
- **Please** bring the civil wedding license to rehearsal.

Music and Weddings at St. Pius X Church

Recognizing that the marriage service is a Sacred Rite, the worship of God who calls a man and woman together in marriage, the wedding music should reflect and accentuate the reverence of the service. The music should correspond to the themes which are inherent in a sacred marriage service. These themes include: God's love for the Church, which then forms the foundation for the love that a man and woman share; God's blessing for the marriage; and the praise of God.

Vocal music should enhance the *spiritual nature* of the service rather than create the atmosphere of a concert. The words of a vocal solo must fit the context of a sacred service and must be consistent with the teachings of Scripture and the Church.

Secular songs and popular hits of the day are unacceptable in a sacred marriage service, since they are inappropriate in that context. These should be reserved for the reception, rehearsal dinner, or some other occasion.

The priest who prepares the couple for their wedding is to be consulted concerning the music arrangements. In the event that a personal preference is manifested for a composition not shown on the following chart, the priest and the music director will make the final decision in the choice of music and songs that are to be used for weddings at St. Pius X.

- **Suggested Music for Bridal Entrance at Weddings**

Trumpet Voluntary	Mendelssohn
Trumpet Voluntary	Clarke
Trumpet Tune	Purcell
Festal Fanfare	J.S. Bach
Rondeau from Sinfonies de Fanfares	Mouret
Sleepers Awake	J.S. Bach
Marche Heroique	Handel
St. Anthony Chorale	Theme by Haydn Variation by Brahms
Allegro Maestoso from Water Music Suite	Handel
Psalm XIX	Marcello
Canon in D	Pachelbel
Bridal Chorus	Wagner

Jesus Joy of Man's Desiring

Bach

Wedding March

Mendelssohn

Non-sacred music **must** be approved by the music director and is permitted as pre-service music only.

• **Basic Policies Regarding Musicians**

The ministry of the parish cantor and organist include all weddings at St. Pius X Church. Use of a guest cantor and/or organist is solely by the express permission of the parish cantor and organist.

1. **Musicians**

- Fee includes (Please refer to the fee schedule):
 - Consultation
 - Wedding Service
- **Payment of all musician fees must be made prior to the wedding.**
- The Folk Group is also an option, either with the parish cantor and/or organist, or, on their own. Please contact the Folk Group leader to make arrangements.

2. **Microphones**

The church is set up for one microphone for the vocalist, one organ and/or one piano.

3. **Taped Music**

Taped or recorded music is never permitted during a liturgy at St. Pius X Church.

Policies for the use of St. Pius X Fr. Phee Activity Center

- **Fees**

All fees for a reception room are to be paid in FULL at least 30 days before the scheduled wedding.

- **Booking Reception Room**

Booking of either space is to be coordinated through the parish secretary.

- **Msgr. Dorney Parish Hall**

- Maintenance Fee is required (custodial presence and work). There is a separate schedule for parishioners and non-parishioners.
- Activities beyond five hours (set-up, activity, clean-up) require an additional fee per hour.
- Separate security deposit required. This is fully refundable provided that there is no damage to room and/or contents.

- **Fr. Bartnik Gymnasium**

- Maintenance Fee is required (custodial presence, laying out protective mats on gym floor and work). There is a separate schedule for parishioners and non-parishioners
- Activities beyond five hours (set-up, activity, clean-up) require an additional fee per hour.
- Separate security deposit required. This is fully refundable provided that there is no damage to room and/or contents.

- **Miscellaneous Policies for the Use of the Fr. Phee Activity Center**

- It is **your** responsibility to make sure that the parish secretary has your reception date on the Church calendar and to contact the maintenance person to discuss the set up and use of the building.

- Caterers and bartenders are the responsibility of those persons renting the facility.
- Caterers may set up for weddings **only on the wedding day**.
- The parish will not be responsible for articles or equipment left unattended.
- Ice sculptures are not allowed.
- No rice, confetti, or birdseed is to be used inside or outside any of the facilities.
- All persons involved in preparation for and cleaning up after activities are expected to use proper care for the protection of the activity center and all its facilities. Any damage or breakage due to carelessness will be the responsibility of the individuals/firm involved.
- **Report any damages** immediately to the maintenance person on duty. These incidents would include, but are not limited to:
 - Broken dishes
 - Broken windows
 - Broken appliances
 - Spills on carpet or floor
 - Plumbing problems
- **Nothing** may be adhered to or attached to the ceilings, walls, or floors.

1. Msg. Dorney Parish Hall

- This reception facility is best suited for serving less than 200 people.
- Dancing is allowed only on the tile floor. The band must also set up equipment on the tiled floor.

- **Bar Area**

It is the responsibility of the caterer to exercise due diligence when alcoholic beverages are served. Local and state laws must be observed. Alcoholic beverages may be served to adults age 21 and older. Intoxicated persons should not be offered alcoholic beverages. Alcoholic beverages are only served from the bar area.

- **Kitchen**

- To avoid any last minute questions or confusion, check kitchen equipment and facilities well ahead of time. If more information or clarification is needed, contact the parish secretary.
- Caterers may **not** use parish dishes, silverware, pots, utensils, etc.
- All leftover food must be removed from the refrigerator.
- Do not adjust temperature control settings on refrigerators.
- Do not put detergent into the dispenser of the dishwasher until the dishes are to be washed.

Remember: Use only detergents designed for automatic dishwashers.

- Rinse all dishes before placing in the dishwasher.
- Clean tops of stoves and kitchen counter tops with mild detergent in warm water, rinse and dry.

2. Fr. Bartnik Gymnasium

- This reception facility is best suited for serving less than 300 (?) people. Note: 300 seated, more possible if reception is not sit-down.



St. Pius X Church Weddings and Fees

Dates and times for weddings may only be set by the pastor, associate pastors and/or deacons assigned to the parish.

Church or Chapel	Parishioner	complimentary
Church	Catholic non-parishioner	\$300
Chapel		\$100
Clergy	Parishioner/non-parishioner	donation
Music		
Cantor	Parishioner/non-parishioner	\$150
Organist	Parishioner/non-parishioner	\$150
Folk Group	Parishioner/non-parishioner	please call
Monsignor Dorney Parish Hall	Parishioner	complimentary
	Non-parishioner	\$150
Security Deposit	Parishioner/non-parishioner	\$150
Maintenance Fee	Parishioner/non-parishioner	\$175
Additional Hours	Parishioner/non-parishioner	\$50 per hour
Father Bartnik Gym	Parishioner	\$250
	Non-Parishioner	\$500
Security Deposit	Parishioner/non-parishioner	\$300
Maintenance Fee	Parishioner/non-parishioner	\$350
Additional Hours	Parishioner/non-parishioner	\$100 per hour