

# ***ST. ZACHARY PARISH***

## ***Wedding Booklet***

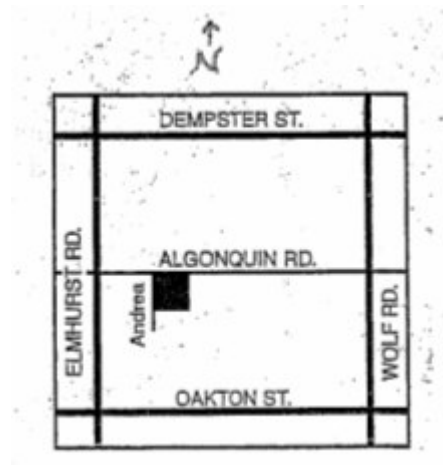


***ST. ZACHARY PARISH***

***567 W. ALGONQUIN ROAD***

***DES PLAINES, ILLINOIS 60016***

***Phone: (847) 956-7020***



Dear Friends,

Congratulations on your upcoming wedding! This is certainly an exciting time for you. I hope that it will also be a prayerful and faith-filled one.

In our Catholic tradition, marriage is a sacrament. This means that you, the bride and groom, are symbols of God's presence in our world. The life that you will live together will make God's love present in your marriage and among your family and friends.

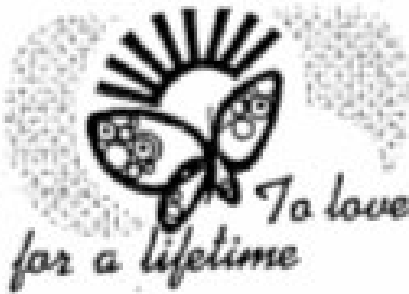
I bet you didn't know that you were undertaking such an awesome task. Yet, in Christian marriage, that is one of your duties. That is why we value marriage so highly and why the "church part" of your wedding day is so important. Long after all the wedding hoopla has faded, God will always be present in your life together. God is love.

I'm very glad you have chosen to have your wedding at St. Zachary. For our part, I and my staff will do everything possible to make your wedding day a holy and joyous one.

I wish you happiness and joy (and a good sense of humor) in this time of preparation for your wedding. May it be a time filled with the love of God.

Sincerely,

Fr. Jack Plotkowski, Pastor



## ***MARRIAGE PREPARATION***

Where you spend your time...there is love.

Did you ever think about how much time goes into making a relationship work? How much listening...how much silence?

Did you ever think that your “relationship” with the Priest/Deacon witnessing your marriage needs time, too?

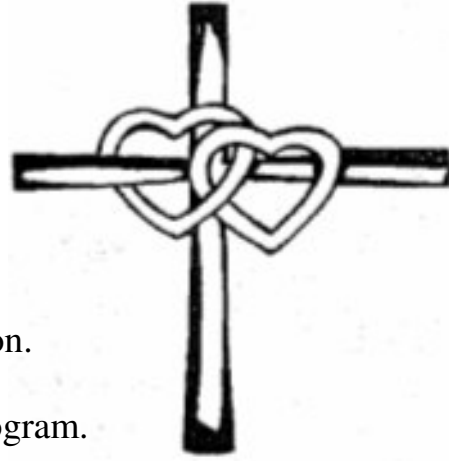
This relationship needs time so the Priest or Deacon, in good conscience, can say, “To the best of my knowledge, this couple will live out their baptismal commitment as they promise fidelity in Marriage.”

Because there are many demands on your time, the Church requirements for your marriage are listed on the following pages. This way, you can start “calendarizing out” some time with your Priest/Deacon and with each other.

As you read through these time commitments, we encourage you **FIRST** to reserve a special day just for the two of you...**ALONE** to talk about your future together and **how GOD is present in your lives**. If you do this, all of your other marriage preparations will focus in a prayerful way on your new beginning.

# *Together for Life*

## **MARRIAGE PREPARATION**



1. Initial Session with the Parish Priest/Deacon.
2. Participation in a Marriage Preparation Program.

The Marriage Preparation Programs which the Archdiocese of Chicago sponsors are designed to deepen the couples' awareness of the challenges of living together in Christian Marriage. They are as follows:

- a) PreCana is a one day session on Saturdays from 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. A pamphlet listing dates and locations of the PreCana is available at the Ministry Center.

FOR INFORMATION: Phone – (312) 751-8201

Online – [www.familyministries.org](http://www.familyministries.org)

- b) Discovery Weekend is a weekend retreat. Pamphlets for this retreat containing date and place availability and how to make reservations can be obtained by calling the Ministry Center at (847) 956-7020.

3. Second session with the Parish Priest/Deacon.

Once you have finished attending the PreCana, you may set up an appointment with the Priest/Deacon who will be celebrating your marriage. Paperwork for the marriage will be completed and you will discuss options for your wedding ceremony.

4. Participation in the Wedding Rehearsal.

The date and time of your rehearsal is arranged by the Priest/Deacon.

# ***MARRIAGE PROCEDURES***

## **CHURCH REQUIREMENTS**



1. **A BAPTISMAL CERTIFICATE** must be submitted by each Catholic party or baptized non-Catholic.

The baptismal certificate for a Catholic party must be issued within six (6) months of the wedding. Contact the Church where you were baptized and request a copy of your baptismal record. Any record of the baptism for the non-Catholic party is sufficient.

A photocopy of your old baptismal record is **NOT** acceptable.

If you have been confirmed, you will also need a **CONFIRMATION CERTIFICATE**.

2. **A PRE-MARRIAGE QUESTIONNAIRE** for both the bride and groom must be completed with the consulting Priest/Deacon.
3. **MARRIAGE AFFIDAVITS** establishing each party's freedom to marry are often required. The consulting Priest/Deacon will further explain these forms.
4. **WEDDING BANNES** are published in the Parish bulletin one week preceding your wedding date.

We recommend that you keep a manila folder marked **CHURCH FILE**. As you begin to delve further into your marriage preparation, all the details that we are required to ask from you can be conveniently set apart from invitation information, banquet hall contracts, etc.

## **CIVIL REQUIREMENTS**



The **MARRIAGE LICENSE** may be obtained from the Cook County Clerk at the locations listed below.

Rolling Meadows Court Bldg. 2121 Euclid – Room 238 Rolling Meadows, IL (847) 818-2000 Mon-Fri 8:30am – 4:30pm	Cook County Bldg. 118 N. Clark St. Chicago, IL (312) 443-5663 Mon-Fri 8:30am – 5pm Sat. 9:00am – 12 Noon	Skokie Court Bldg. 5600 Old Orchard Rd. Skokie, IL (847) 470-7500 Mon-Fri 8:30am – 4pm
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The engaged couple must both be present when applying for a marriage license. This license is valid for sixty (60) days and must be obtained at least one day before your wedding.

The marriage license must be given to the Priest/Deacon before the marriage can take place.

## **PLACE**

The bride or groom or their parents must be registered parishioners of St. Zachary Parish.

## **TIMES**

Marriages at St. Zachary may be scheduled on Saturday at 11:00 a.m., 1:00 p.m. or 3:00 p.m. Friday evening weddings are normally scheduled at 4:00 p.m.

One the day of the wedding, please arrive at least 15 minutes before the ceremony. **PLEASE BE ON TIME!**

## **TIMES**

Our Parish Priests or Deacons generally perform all marriage ceremonies for members of our Parish. If you prefer a Visiting Priest, please consult with one of our Priests/Deacons from St. Zachary. Each wedding tends to be unique. The Visiting Priest should, if at all possible, take responsibility for the preparation and attend the rehearsal. If a Visiting Priest has any questions, he may call Fr. Plotkowski at St. Zachary Parish at (847) 956-7020.



## **REHEARSAL**

Please schedule the rehearsal with a Priest/Deacon. We request that you be on time for the rehearsal since another wedding rehearsal may follow yours and the Priest/Deacon may have other obligations on the same evening. It is very important that the entire wedding party be in the Church at the scheduled time.

All members of the wedding party are asked to dress appropriately for the rehearsal.

## **ALCOHOL**

Alcohol is not permitted in the parking lot, Church, Gathering Area, Brides's Room or restrooms at the rehearsal or wedding day itself.

## **ALTAR SERVERS**

We provide our own trained Alter Servers for weddings. You may select your own, but please inform the Priest/Deacon of your selection. A gratuity is customary.

## **PHOTOGRAPHERS / VIDEOGRAPHERS**

Please have your photographer or videographer consult with the Priest/Deacon prior to the beginning of your wedding for restrictions.. While photos and a video of your wedding are important to you, a reverent atmosphere for the liturgical celebrations of your wedding always has priority. Therefore, in order not to detract from this important day in your lives, your photographer or videographer must maintain a quiet, respectful atmosphere at all times.

A photographer or videographer may never be on the altar platform or the steps leading up to it.

All photography of the wedding party must stop 10 minutes before the wedding begins. All photography after a 1:00 p.m. must be completed by 4:30 p.m.

## **FLOWERS**

Arrangements for the flowers and a runner should be made with your florist. Florists can set up one-half hour prior to the wedding. No flowers, candles or candelabras are to be placed on the altar proper. Since the altar table is very small, no flowers or candles are to be placed on it. The sanctuary area is very small also. Please keep this in mind when ordering flowers. Local fire regulations prohibit the use of candles in candlelight arrangements or in pew markers.

## **RICE**

No balloons, confetti, rice, or birdseed are allowed to be thrown inside or outside the church.

## **WEDDING OFFERING**

The Wedding Fee is \$275.00. There are additional fees for the musician and cantor (see below). Please consult with the Priest/Deacon as to when to pay the wedding fee.

## **WEDDING MUSIC**

Our Music Director is Mary-Esther Caldronne who can be reached at (847) 980-1009 or via e-mail at [m.caldronne@comcast.net](mailto:m.caldronne@comcast.net).

Mrs. Caldronne will discuss music fees when she meets with you. She and any other musicians/cantors are to be paid separately from the Church fee.

All music for weddings must be discussed with and approved by Mrs. Caldronne. If you choose to use outside musicians, there will be a \$100.00 consultation fee.

