

ST. Vincent Pallotti

— P A R I S H —

WITH THE CHURCHES OF ST. JOSEPH AND ST. PATRICK

Wyandotte, Michigan

MARRIAGE GUIDELINES

Please review these guidelines as soon as possible and make sure you mark your calendar.

You are responsible for this information and deadlines.

Call the Parish Office at 734-285-9840 if you have any questions.

Priest Interview

This should be done at least six months in advance of when you wanted to get married and **before** you secure your hall for the reception. At the meeting, your marriage date will be discussed and scheduled in the parish calendar and church of your choice. (Either St. Joseph or St. Patrick Church). During this initial interview, the priest will also explain the parish policies concerning the formation time, fill out the required paperwork, prepare any dispensation papers, etc.

Marriage Preparation Class

You will be required to attend a marriage preparation class before you can marry in the church. St. Vincent Pallotti Parish currently offers a marriage prep program that you will be required to participate in, if you are getting married in our parish. Father will discuss this with you when you first meet.

Pre-Marriage Inventory (PMI)

In addition to the preparation classes, you will be sent via email a PMI **to complete at least 3 months prior** to your marriage. This is through the FOCCUS GROUP program and the email will be coming from them. If you DO NOT receive their email within three months of your wedding date, check your spam folder.

Baptismal Certificates

If you were baptized at St. Joseph, St. Patrick, St. Elizabeth or St. Vincent Pallotti Parish, a certificate will not be necessary as your record will be in our files. You will need to get a certificate if you were baptized at another parish. If either couple was baptized in another faith, a copy of his or her baptism certificate will be needed.

Liturgy Details

You will receive a folder from the pastor with an information sheet, Scripture readings and Prayer of the Faithful petitions. This material will help you plan your wedding celebration and provide a guideline for the wedding coordinators. Friends or relatives, preferably one from each of the couple, may be chosen to do the readings and Prayers of the Faithful. Being of the Catholic faith is recommended for these readings.

Music

Call Kim Kilburn, our music director asap to secure your date, at 734-934-0512 or email her at kim.kilburn.music@gmail.com. **Please note:** *If you are NOT contracting with our Director of Music, you must let Kim and the wedding coordinator know who is providing the music. This individual **must** be well versed in what is proper for the Catholic wedding liturgy.*

WEDDING CEREMONY OPTIONAL ADDITIONS...

Unity Candle

The lighting of the two tapers and large pillar candle, signifying the unity of their families together in Christ. If you choose this tradition, you must provide the candles. Unity sand or cord is also an option.

Flower presentation to the Blessed Virgin Mary

Couples who have a devotion to Mary will take a moment before the conclusion of the liturgy to offer prayers and flowers to Mary as they begin their life together. Your florist will help you with this.

Decorations

Floral decorations, pew bows, etc., if desired, are your responsibility. Please only use ribbon to secure pew bows, no wire or tape. The florist or wedding coordinator may place these in church shortly before the time of your wedding. Due to safety concerns, **aisle runners are not allowed in church.**

Programs

You can provide a program to follow during your Wedding Mass. Bring them to the rehearsal so they can be set out before the wedding. Groomsmen can hand them out to your guests as they arrive.

Photography

The use of flash is **forbidden** during the ceremony. Video cameras are to be used *discreetly* with permission *from the celebrant*. Please be sure to check with the wedding coordinators for the appropriate placement of video cameras and boundaries for the photographer. The photographer should be inconspicuous and should never stand in front of the guests, in the pews or up by the Altar.

OTHER NOTES

Receiving Line

There is no receiving line after a church service or Mass. This is something you can reserve for arriving at your reception.

Throwing Rice, Bird Seed, Flower Petals both silk or real, etc.

To avoid any hazard to safety and to minimize custodial work, the throwing of rice, confetti (both regular and biodegradable), rose petals, bird seed, bubbles or anything else (inside or outside of church) **is prohibited** at both worship sites. You will be billed for the clean-up if this is not followed.

Donations

Registered, active and contributing members of St. Vincent Pallotti Parish support the ongoing work and maintenance of the parish. A \$300 donation to the Parish is mandated and secures your date. The \$300 will go towards your offertory donation. If you have **not** been a registered, active and contributing member of the parish for at least one year prior to the scheduling of your marriage date, the fee is \$600, \$300 of which is due the day you book your wedding with the Pastor. If you have extenuating circumstances, please speak with the Pastor.

Rehearsal

We are extremely fortunate to have a team of dedicated volunteers at each worship site who assist in the rehearsals and guide your wedding party on the day of your wedding. Please call the Parish Office as soon as possible to reserve your rehearsal date.

Alcohol

Being intoxicated, or under the influence of other recreational drugs can potentially affect a person's ability to consent while making their vows – **this in turn can affect the validity of the marriage**. Please wait until after the ceremony to indulge. Alcohol consumption is **prohibited** in the church and its surroundings during the rehearsal and on the day of the wedding. Please respect the sanctity of the Sacrament of Marriage and the church.

Bride and Groom waiting rooms

We are happy to provide dressing / waiting rooms for the bride and groom before the wedding begins. Your wedding coordinator will show you these areas during your rehearsal.

Dress Etiquette for a Catholic Church

A bride marrying in a Roman Catholic Church should select a gown that is appropriate in style and color, and one that maintains tradition for the ceremony. The groom, also, must follow guidelines for proper attire. At the rehearsal, proper attire is preferred with refrain from inappropriate novelty wear.

The Bridal Gown

St. Vincent Pallotti Parish practices the guidelines set forth by the Catholic Church for the bride — and her bridesmaids. If you have any questions, please call the Pastor or the Wedding Coordinator.

The Groom's Attire

The groom traditionally wears a tuxedo or suit and tie, dress shoes during the church service. Because the sacramental ceremony is a significant life event, it is important to dress appropriately — no jeans, sneakers, sandals or sunglasses.

Please note:

Brides and bridesmaids should avoid plunging necklines and gowns that reveal too much cleavage. Skin-tight gowns and dresses cut above the knee are frowned upon. These kinds of dresses can call for an uncomfortable moment when the couple is asked to kneel or sit during prayer.