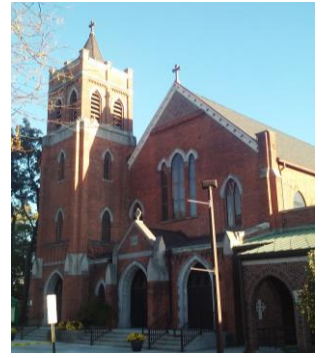




St. Vincent Pallotti Parish
With the churches of St. Joseph and St. Patrick
Wyandotte, Michigan



MARRIAGE GUIDELINES

Please review these guidelines as soon as possible and take note and make sure you mark your calendar. There are deadlines and information you should be aware of. Thank you!

Priest interview

This should be done at least six months before you would like to be married and before you secure your hall for your reception. At the meeting, your desired marriage date will be discussed and scheduled in the parish calendar. During this initial interview, the priest will also explain the parish policies concerning the formation time, begin to fill out the required paperwork for your marriage, prepare any special marriage dispensation, etc. and answer any questions you might have.

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 does not offer classes, but recommends the program offered through **St. Frances Cabrini Parish** in Allen Park. The current retreat dates are in your yellow folder. You can also go to www.cabriniparish.org and click on "Pre Cana Retreat". If have questions, call St. Frances Cabrini at 313-381-5601. If you are not able to participate in their program, the Archdiocese of Detroit has other options available. You will find these options at their website, www.aodonline.org.

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, please call Annette in the Parish Office at 734-285-9840, ext. 108.

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, and it must be dated **no more than six months prior** to your scheduled marriage. 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, Prayer of the Faithful and music selections. 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 734-282-5882 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 wedding liturgy and what is proper church music.*

Wedding Liturgy Options

Unity Candle

This trio of candles are displayed on a special stand. The two outside tapers are lit before the ceremony by the mothers of the bride and groom. Later in the service, the bride and groom take the flame from the two tapers and together light the large pillar candle in the middle, signifying the unity of their families together in Christ. If you choose to observe this tradition, you must provide the candles and stand. 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. Mary is a wonderful model of how we are to live out our faith and trust in God. Your florist will help you with choosing the flowers for 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

As it is a time of prayer, the use of flashes is forbidden during the ceremony. This is to minimize distraction and is a mark of respect to the couple getting married. 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.

Receiving Line

The purpose of the wedding reception is to receive congratulations of all the guests. A receiving line immediately after the ceremony in the church is discouraged and should be reserved at the reception.

Throwing Rice, Bird Seed, etc.

To avoid any hazard to safety and to minimize custodial work, the throwing of rice, confetti, rose petals, bird seed or anything else (**inside or outside of church**) is **prohibited** at both worship sites. This includes the dropping of flower petals (or anything else) by flower girls. You are responsible for

informing your families regarding this parish policy and also for the clean up should your guests not observe this policy. If this policy is not observed, you will be billed for the clean-up.

Donations

Registered, active and contributing members of St. Vincent Pallotti Parish support the ongoing work and maintenance of the parish. A **\$250** donation to the Parish is mandated and secures your date. The \$250 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, we want you to consider the cost of the use of our facilities when you decide on your marriage donation. The suggested fee is **\$500, \$250** of which is due the day you book your date 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. Our wedding coordinator is **Annette Sebestin**. Please contact her at 734-285-9840, ext. 108 to reserve your rehearsal date.

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

When planning a wedding, one of the biggest decisions to be made by the bride is what she will wear. A bride marrying in a Roman Catholic Church must 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 his attire.

The Bridal Gown

St. Vincent Pallotti Parish practices the guidelines of the Catholic Church for the bride — and her bridesmaids — to cover their shoulders during the ceremony as a sign of respect and modesty. You may want to consider a shawl or lace jacket while in church that can later be removed for a strapless look later during the reception. Brides marrying for the first time traditionally wear a white, floor-length gown. If you have any questions, please call the Pastor.

The Groom's Attire

The bride groom traditionally wears a tuxedo or suit with a neck tie and dress shoes during the wedding ceremony, depending on how formal the reception is. Because the sacramental ceremony is a significant life event, it is important to dress the part — no jeans, sneakers, sandals or sun glasses.

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 during prayer. Both the bride and groom should also make an effort to cover any tattoos and to remove any unconventional piercings — any piercings that are not in the ear. Again, while it is not required, it is considered a sign of respect for the Pastor and for the sanctity of the marriage. If you have any questions, please consult the Pastor.

WEDDING CHECKLIST

Please keep this list handy and refer to it often!

- **MARRIAGE GUIDELINE SHEET** – We cannot stress enough how important it is to read through your guideline sheet. It contains valuable information and is crucial to planning for your wedding with the church.
- **BAPTISMAL CERTIFICATE** - Request a copy (**within 6 months** of your marriage date) of your Baptismal certificate from your parish of baptism, if other than St. Joseph Wyandotte, St. Patrick Wyandotte, St. Elizabeth Wyandotte or St. Vincent Pallotti Parish). Bring a copy to the Parish Office or have the church where you were baptized mail it to us at: St. Vincent Pallotti Parish, 334 Elm Street, Wyandotte, MI 48192, Attn: Krissy Martin.
- **MARRIAGE LICENSE** – Apply for a license **within 30 days** of your wedding date. Apply at the County Building of either the bride or groom’s county of residence. For those who reside OUTSIDE the State of Michigan, apply for the License in Detroit at the Wayne County City Clerk’s office. **Bring the 3 original copies** of the marriage license to the Parish Office at least 5 days prior to the wedding so we can prepare them for your wedding day.
- **MARRIAGE PREPARATION WORKSHOP** – St. Frances Cabrini Parish host marriage workshops called “*Pre Cana Retreats*” throughout the year. Schedule your retreat as soon as possible. A registration sheet is in your folder or you can download at www.cabriniparish.org.
- **ORGANIST** – Call Music Director, Kim Kilburn, when you secure your wedding date, so she can mark on her calendar. Even if you decide to use another organist, please give a courtesy call to let her know. Her number is 734-282-5882 or email her at kim.kilburn.music@gmail.com.
- **PRE-MARRIAGE INVENTORY** (PMI) - You will receive an email within 2 months of your wedding via the FOCCUS GROUP that will contain a series of questions. Once you complete these online questions, the results are emailed to the Pastor for review. If you do not receive this email from the Foccus Group within 60 days, call Annette at 734-285-9840, ext. 108.
- **REHEARSAL** – Schedule 3 months prior to wedding. Call Annette 734-285-9840, ext. 108.
- **WEDDING INFORMATION SHEET** – This is in your yellow folder. Please complete and return to Annette at the Parish Office 2 weeks prior of the wedding date.

If you have any questions on the above information, call Annette at 734-285-9840, ext. 108.

St. Vincent Pallotti Parish

334 Elm Street, Wyandotte, MI 48192

734-285-9840

www.stvpp.org