

## **Marriage Preparation Packet**

Congratulations on your engagement to be married. By choosing to be married in a Catholic Church, you have chosen a sacramental marriage – a marriage blessed by God. God’s graces in a sacramental marriage will make the good times more joyful and provide the strength to endure the trials that may come. We at St. Pius X are pleased to assist you in making preparations for your wedding ceremony. We hope the following material will be of help in planning for this special day.

### **Contact Information at a Glance**

Monsignor Mark Merdian, Pastor	793-7373 ext 211
Father Scott Potthoff, Associate	793-7373 ext 220
Deacon Paul Martin	236-1715
Deacon Timothy Granet	794-0246
Deacon Joseph Dockery-Jackson	786-2385
Rectory	793-7373
Mr. Cary Young, Farrell Hall Manager	793-7353

## Parish Requirements

1. Preparation for marriage should begin 8 to 12 months before the wedding. Couples must consult the Parish Priest for the wedding date and time **before** setting the date and place of the wedding and reception. A deposit is requested to hold the wedding date (\$300 for contributing parishioners, \$400 for non-contributing parishioners, \$600 for non-parishioners).
2. Marriage preparation has two parts. First, there are the preparations for the wedding day, with the countless details that involves. Careful planning can make your wedding day a much richer experience. But, more importantly, marriage preparation is designed to prepare you for a joyful life together as a couple and family. Good planning takes time. A consulting priest or deacon and others at the parish will assist you in both planning your wedding day as well as preparing for your life together. Your consulting priest or deacon will work out a preparation schedule with you.
3. Celebrant: The ordinary celebrant for weddings is the Pastor or his associate, or one of the parish deacons. Priests from outside the Parish may be invited to either preside or concelebrate, by agreement and prior consultation with the Pastor. The Pastor is responsible for keeping records associated with the marriage. The Pastor is also responsible for the premarital investigation. The celebrant will conduct the rehearsal with the support of the Parish Director of Music Ministries.
4. A rehearsal for the entire wedding party is normal procedure. Everyone is expected to be on time for both the rehearsal and the wedding.
5. Weddings during the Lenten season are discouraged. Both the range of songs and the decorations available are subdued during Lent.
6. Weddings may be scheduled any time **except** Saturday Evening, Sundays, or Holy Days of Obligation. Up to 2 weddings may be scheduled on Saturdays between 11:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. Regular weekend Masses begin at 4:00 p.m. on Saturday. Without special arrangements, the church is available **1 hour** before your ceremony.
7. Clerical fees and Church expenses are incurred with every wedding. The minimum suggested offering for the Priest or Deacon celebrating the wedding is \$100. A minimum suggested offering for covering church expenses is \$300 for contributing parishioners, \$400 for non-contributing parishioners, and \$600 for non-parishioners. If either of you or any of your parents are participating members of St. Pius, then you are considered parishioners.
8. During the process of marriage preparation, Catholics are encouraged to complete their Christian Initiation if they have not yet received the sacraments of Penance, Communion, or Confirmation. Catholics should make a good confession shortly before their marriage. Making a good confession before marriage ensures that God's graces flow into that marriage unobstructed. It is usually better to schedule a time other than the rehearsal for going to confession.
9. Catholics to be married in this Parish are expected to be practicing Catholics by their Sunday attendance at Holy Mass and living a life consistent with Church teachings. This gives God the best opportunity to support the couple in their marriage.

## Diocesan Requirements

1. If you were baptized a Catholic, we must have a copy of your baptismal certificate. This certificate must be less than six months old and is obtainable from the Church where you were baptized. If you were baptized, but not in the Catholic Church, we would like a copy of your baptismal certificate if at all possible.
2. If your Confirmation is not noted on your baptismal certificate, a Confirmation Certificate, obtainable from the Church where you were confirmed, is also required.
3. Two affidavits confirming each party's freedom to marry must be submitted in most cases. The consulting Priest or Deacon assisting you in marriage preparation will advise you. Parents, brothers, sisters, and close relatives are preferred witnesses.
4. To help couples better learn about their chosen mate and where areas of agreement and disagreement may come up in their marriage, a premarital inventory for both the bride and groom must be completed with the consulting Priest or Deacon. Knowing how your partner feels and discussing differences openly can avoid later problems.
5. Two witnesses are required for the ceremony and generally should be Catholic. The Priest or Deacon assisting you in your marriage preparation will advise you if you wish witnesses who are not Catholic.
6. The Diocese of Peoria has the following two requirements for marriage preparation:
  - a. Attendance at either *The Engaged Couple Encounter Weekend* or the *Pre-Cana Conference*.
  - b. Attendance at either the *Christian Sexuality Workshop* or the *Natural Family Planning* classes.

We believe the Sacrament of Marriage consists of proper preparation as well as the celebration itself. All Diocesan Marriage Preparation information, schedules and registrations forms will be available on the diocesan website at [cdop.org](http://cdop.org). Couples should print the registration form and send it into the Office of Family Life in Peoria to register. If you do not have web access, the priest or deacon can print you a copy.

7. When both parties are Catholic, the full Catholic Rite of Marriage with the Mass is preferred. This is the most complete way in which you can invite God to bless and share in your wedding and marriage. If one or both of the Catholic parties are not practicing the faith, the Sacrament of Marriage may be celebrated within a Mass if the person of another faith requests it. Reception of Holy Communion by non-Catholics is not permitted. **Special Note:** The Bishop's permission is also required should a couple wish to be married in a Church other than a Catholic Church.

## Civil Requirements

1. A Marriage License must be obtained from the Rock Island County Clerk's Office at least one day before the wedding ceremony and no more than 60 days before the wedding day. The celebrant must have the certificate before the wedding can be performed. **Bring the Marriage License with you to the rehearsal.**

## Additional Information

1. A Bride's Room is available in the Church. Ushers and Groomsmen come to the Church dressed for the wedding. There is no dressing room available for them.
2. The Church is the house of God and we therefore urge respect. Smoking, drinking or the use of anything that would interfere with a person's ability to make a commitment, either before or after the rehearsal or the wedding service is not allowed. **No** alcoholic beverages are permitted on church property, and tailgate parties are **not** permitted. **The wedding ceremony may be cancelled if signs of alcohol or other substances that interfere with a person's ability to make a commitment are present or found on church property.**
3. No food is allowed in the body of the church. (Water bottles for musicians are okay.) If the wedding party will be at the church for an extended period of time and will need something to eat, contact the pastor or your consulting priest or deacon and space for food will be arranged. You will be responsible for making sure all food is cleaned up after the wedding. Chewing gum during the wedding is not appropriate.
4. The wedding day is a time for beauty and pageantry. It is also a time for modesty. Immodest dress is a distraction and does not honor God.
5. The couple should meet with the Celebrant or Pastor or his delegate, to walk through the planned liturgy before the actual rehearsal. In this way appropriate decisions can be made without the stress of a large group waiting. If not already completed, a Liturgy Planning Form (See pocket) will be completed during this 'walk through'.
6. The Marriage License, unity candle, and other items that are to be used within the wedding service should be brought to the Church during the rehearsal time and left in the care of the Celebrant.
7. It is expected that all fees (Church, celebrant, musicians, etc.) will be taken care of at the rehearsal.
8. Receiving Lines may be held in the vestibule of the Church, but they may not interfere with the ordinary schedule for liturgies that follow. There is a 4:00 p.m. Saturday evening Mass so all activities at the church on Saturday must conclude by 3:30 p.m. Couples are encouraged to receive friends and family at the reception.
9. Farrell Hall, across the parking lot from St. Pius Church is available for receptions. Call Cary Young (793-7373) for information about availability and cost.
10. The custom of throwing rice, birdseed and/or confetti creates a safety hazard and custodial problems at the Church entrance and is **not permitted** either inside or outside the Church.
11. Announcements should be made through the printed invitations or programs and not by the Celebrant. Exceptions should be agreed upon at the planning session.
12. We encourage that the couple arrange in advance with their ushers or designates a 'host couple' to put the Church in order immediately following the ceremony.

## Church Décor

There is a special décor in the Church during various liturgical seasons of the year, such as Advent, Christmas, Lent and Easter. This seasonal décor cannot be moved or altered for a wedding. If you have any questions, confer with the Priest or Deacon.

Floral decorations are optional. If you choose to have flowers, you should make arrangements with the florist for this service. The Church will provide candles for the altar. Due to wax spillage, no other candles by the florist are permitted. The church does **not** provide the unity candle or the two ‘mother’s candles’. If you are planning to incorporate a unity candle in your wedding ceremony, you will need to provide it.

## Liturgical Guidelines

A wedding ritual is, first of all, a worship service. It is a time when Christians gather to praise the God who has called a man and a woman together in marriage. Catholic weddings are both the couple’s day and the Church’s day. The wedding ceremony certainly should be personal and unique because the couple approaching marriage is unique. As liturgy, the wedding ceremony should embody and proclaim Christian faith and call the Christian community to worship. In planning your wedding ceremony, great care should be taken to blend creativity and the uniqueness of your love for each other with the richness of the Catholic liturgy.

### Readings, Prayers, Blessings

In preparing the ceremony, you are encouraged to choose the Scripture readings, prayers, and blessings from among those approved in the Catholic ritual for marriage. The Priest or Deacon assisting you in your marriage preparation can help you with this. Scripture passages other than the normal options may be chosen after consultation with the consulting Priest or Deacon. However, substituting a non-scriptural reading for a scriptural reading is **not** permitted.

### Ritual Action

Care must be taken that the movement, gestures and procession in a wedding ritual are both prayerful and expressive of the Christian faith.

The first gesture to be experienced will be that of the warmth and welcome of the ushers. The ushers should realize that they are ministers of hospitality.

The ritual action of the procession can be done in several ways. Your consulting priest or deacon can share options with you.

### The Wedding Party

As in any worship service, those who attend a wedding should not be silent spectators, but true participants. They have assembled to prayerfully support your marriage commitment. Every effort should be made by the couple and the celebrant to engage them in the spoken responses and the songs of the service.

## The Wedding Ceremony

The form of the wedding ceremony will differ depending upon whether the wedding is being celebrated with or without a Mass. The typical flow of the wedding ceremony is:

- Prelude – music that sets the atmosphere for a sacred celebration.
- Wedding procession – the entrance of the bridal party into the church.
- Readings, Responsorial Psalm, Gospel Acclamation and Gospel – God present through His Word.
- Homily – reflection on the Word of God and the sacrament of marriage.
- Rite of Marriage – the couple administer the sacrament of marriage to each other, with God, the celebrant and the congregation as witnesses.
- Unity Candle – an optional ritual signifying the union of the two families.
- General Intercessions – prayers for the church and the special needs of the newly married.
- Preparation of the Gifts (within a Mass) – the community offers bread and wine that will become the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ.
- Eucharistic Prayer (within a Mass) – through the actions of the priest, the bread and wine become the Body and Blood of Jesus.
- Communion Rite – the recitation of the Lord’s Prayer, the Sign of Peace and the distribution of Holy Communion.
- Visit to Mary’s Altar – an optional ritual where the new husband and wife ask the assistance of Mary and Joseph in their marriage.
- Dismissal Rite – the newly married couple is welcomed by the community and sent forth to witness to God’s love.
- Postlude (optional) – music that lifts the hearts of all who are gathered as they leave the church.

The Wedding Liturgy Planning Forms provide more information on each part of the wedding ceremony. Completed Wedding Liturgy Planning Forms need to be completed and turned in to your consulting priest or deacon at least 1 month prior to the wedding.

## Wedding Music

In selecting music for a Catholic wedding, keep in mind that music, and especially the words need to be appropriate to a service of worship and should fit the moment in the ritual in which the music is used. Music chosen for the Liturgy of the Word or the Liturgy of the Eucharist must pertain to the action of these liturgies; that is to hearing the Word, or to the offering of selves or communion with Christ and one another. Couples are encouraged to bring the community into the singing as active participants in the worship. Sung acclamations and responses are recommended.

The Sacrament of Marriage is holy, and as such the music used within the Sacrament itself should reflect the themes of blessing and unity. Some songs – even some that have been widely and regularly performed at weddings in recent times – are unsuitable. They might be lovely tunes or popular romantic ballads with nostalgic sentiments, but they are inappropriate because their texts are limited to a personal dialogue between two lovers. This, in effect, negates the idea of a Christ-centered worship. In addition, they neglect and ignore the fundamental nature of Christian marriage, which is the celebration of God’s love for the love a man and woman share. In considering wedding music, consider: **Will this song help us and the rest of the worshipping community to lift our hearts in prayer on our wedding day?** If it cannot, then it is out of place in your wedding ceremony.

When pop music is used, it must be remembered that this may be lacking, and that the text may need to be altered to reflect the blessing of the Holy Spirit, as well as the usual theme of husband and wife. If pop music is used, it is most appropriate at the Prelude or Postlude. Many sacred musical pieces have been written with the Sacrament of Marriage in mind, and you may find them more appropriate during the wedding Mass itself. Other music may be nice, and especially meaningful for the couple, but is more appropriate for the reception.

Contact the Director of Music Ministries to coordinate your wedding music at least 3 months prior to the wedding day.

### Hiring Wedding Musicians

It is expected that you will use at least one of the Parish musicians for your wedding music. These are musicians who are dedicated to the ministry of music at St. Pius and are familiar and comfortable with our instruments and knowledgeable with setting up the necessary electronic equipment. Using a St. Pius musician will avoid any liability on your part for damage done to the electronic equipment. The musicians will discuss their fees with you. Contact the Pastor (793-7373) for a list of Parish musicians. **If a parish musician is not used, a \$50 fee will be required for equipment support.**

## Options

There are many options from which to choose when planning your liturgy. The choice of participants, music, and actions are all geared to the Liturgy of the Word, the Liturgy of the Eucharist, and the Sacrament of Marriage. Among the things you will need to decide in planning your wedding are:

- Altar Servers
- Readers
- Music and musicians
- Lighting the 'Mother's Candles'
- Order of procession
- Visit to Mary's Altar
- Mother's procession
- Use of flowers
- Selection of readings
- Giving the sign of peace
- Use of Unity Candle
- Special Gifts for Offertory
- General intercessions
- Use of Aisle Runner
- Use of age-appropriate ring bearers & flower girls
- Memorial table



## Directions for the Host Couple

A host couple can coordinate a multitude of details at the church on the day of the wedding.

### Duties

1. If the wedding party will be at the church for an extended period of time and arrangements have been made with the pastor for a space for refreshments, the host couple can be responsible for setting up and cleaning up the refreshments.
2. The host couple can assume responsibility for checking to make sure that personal items of the wedding party are collected after the wedding.
3. The host couple can take down the decorations and perform any clean-up and other activities needed to return the Church for use in daily or weekend liturgies.

## Directions for the Ushers

Ushers are Ministers of Hospitality. This ministry calls for welcoming guests and seating them, not as an usher would do in a theater, but as a friend would do in a friendly, yet sacred place.

### Duties

1. Arrive early enough to review any plans, duties, etc. (Usually 30 minutes before the wedding.)
2. See that the guests are seated. You may offer your right arm and walk to the left of ladies being seated. **Use all four sections of the central seats when seating guests, so that more people may be close to the sanctuary.**
3. No guests are to be seated after the mothers are **seated**. Late arrivals must wait until the bridal party arrives at the front of the Church.
4. Remove the guest book 5 minutes before the wedding is scheduled to begin and seat guests immediately so the wedding can begin on time.
5. After the recessional, the bride's parents are ushered out first, followed by the groom's parents. Then usher out all the other guests, moving from the front to the back. Other options may be chosen in consultation with the Celebrant.
6. If there is no host couple, decorations (bows, boxes, white aisle runner, etc.) and all personal items are to be removed immediately after the wedding by the ushers. They should also pick up any articles left in the Bride's Room. We cannot be responsible for items left in the Church.
7. If anyone brings a camera, ask them to take pictures only during the processional and recessional, but not during the service.

## Directions for the Florist

(Print this page and give to your Florist)

For the Wedding of: \_\_\_\_\_

Time: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Place: St. Pius X Catholic Church, 24<sup>th</sup> Street & 31<sup>st</sup> Avenue, Rock Island, IL

### Policies at St. Pius

1. The Parish does not usually provide supplies for weddings, such as Unity Candles, vases, flower stands, artificial plants, flowers, or aisle runner. Call Mrs. Chris Holmes (787-2034) one month prior to the wedding for information concerning candles, altar cloths, etc.
2. No decorations should be put in place before the day of the wedding unless special arrangements have been made with the Pastor.
3. The ordinary decorations for the Parish liturgies may not be set aside for weddings (“Seasonal décor in the Church cannot be disturbed”) without the permission of the Pastor or his delegate.
4. No flowers are to be on the Altar itself. Flowers should enhance or decorate, but not in ‘display fashion’. Flowers may be used on the end of the pews or on the Communion railing. (There are 14 pews on each side of the main aisle.) The plan for decoration must be approved by the Pastor or his delegate.
5. All decorations (also boxes, etc.) are to be removed **immediately after the wedding**. Flowers may be left for the Altars if that is the wish of the bride.
6. A white aisle runner may be used and should be no less than 75 feet long. It is to be picked up immediately after the wedding. Ensure that the aisle runner has appropriate adhesive material to be anchored easily when the ushers roll it out. NOTE: Should the bride wish no runner, the center aisle could be roped off to guests, keeping it for her procession and the procession of the immediate families only.

For further information, please call the Rectory during regular business hours (793-7373)

## Directions for the Photographer

(Print this page and give to your Photographer)

For the wedding of: \_\_\_\_\_

Time: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

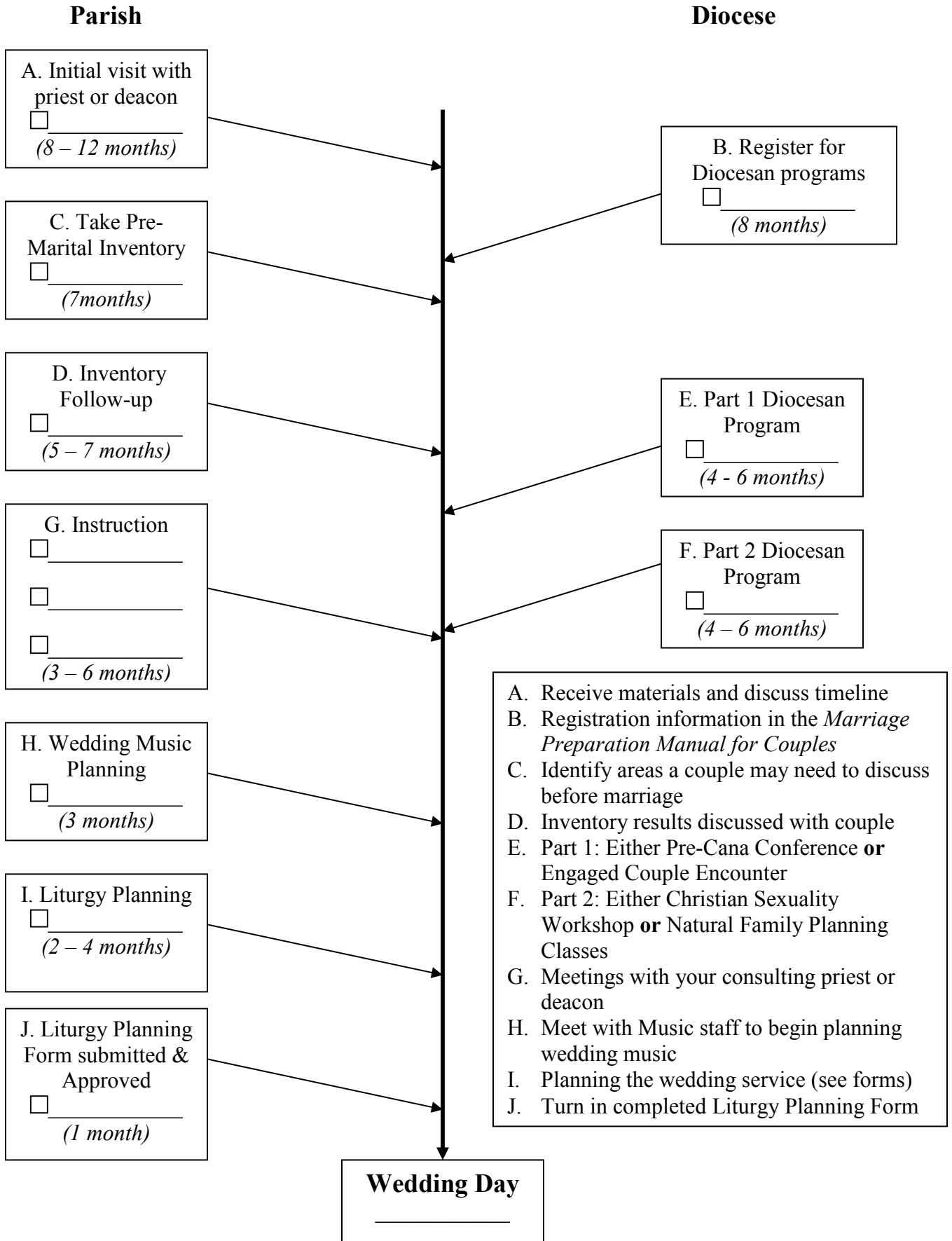
Place: St. Pius X Catholic Church, 24<sup>th</sup> St & 31<sup>st</sup> Ave, Rock Island, IL

### Policies at St. Pius

1. Pictures may be taken before or after the service, but should be planned so as to be completed by 3:30 p.m. for a Saturday afternoon wedding. For evening weddings, pictures should be completed by 9:00 p.m. (There are no scheduled Saturday evening weddings.)
2. Pictures, including videos, may be taken from the rear of the Church, in the Bride's Room.
3. The photographer may not use floods for photos (i.e. bright lights) during the ceremony.
4. At no time during the ceremony may the photographer come into the Sanctuary area, or the front or side areas of the Church.
5. No flash photos are to be taken at any time during the ceremony.
6. The photographer must not interfere with the procession or the flow of guests in or out of the Church or interfere with the decorations of the Church in any way.
7. Pictures to be taken should be planned so as to allow adequate time following the ceremony, for liturgy preparations for the next Parish Liturgy.

For further information, please call the Rectory during regular business hours (793-7373)

# Wedding Planning Timeline



### St. Pius Wedding Liturgy Planning Form – WITH MASS

Name of Groom: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Bride: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Wedding: \_\_\_\_\_ Time: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Rehearsal: \_\_\_\_\_

Priest or Deacon Celebrating: \_\_\_\_\_

Priests or Deacons Assisting: \_\_\_\_\_

Altar Server(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Organist/Pianist: \_\_\_\_\_

Instrumentalist(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Vocalist(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Host Couple: \_\_\_\_\_

Wedding Party:

Number of Bridesmaids (including the Maid/Matron of Honor): \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Groomsmen (including the Best Man): \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Ushers: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Flower Girls/Junior Bridesmaids: \_\_\_\_\_

Ring Bearer: Yes: \_\_\_\_\_ No: \_\_\_\_\_

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#### **Before the Liturgy Begins**

Prelude Music: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Seating of the Mothers: \_\_\_\_\_

**Procession Order**

The formal wedding procession typically begins with the seating of the mothers.

	Name	Role	Check Escort	One Met	Name	Role
1						
2						
3						
4						
5						
6						
7						
8						
9						
10						
11						
12						
13						
14						
15						
16						

Will the mothers light the 'Mother's Candles' by the Unity Candle before being seated? Y / N

Procession Music:

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*(Use only religious music from here until the Postlude)*

**Liturgy of the Word** (All page numbers refer to the booklet *Together for Life*)

Opening Prayer: (A1 – 4)

No. \_\_\_\_\_, page \_\_\_\_\_

Old Testament Reading: (B1 – 9)

No. \_\_\_\_\_, page \_\_\_\_\_

Read by: \_\_\_\_\_

Responsorial Psalm: (C1 – 7) [Must be a psalm setting; other songs or scripture cannot be substituted.]

No. \_\_\_\_\_, page \_\_\_\_\_

Read by: \_\_\_\_\_

or

Musical Setting: \_\_\_\_\_

Sung by: \_\_\_\_\_

New Testament Reading: (D1 – 13)

No. \_\_\_\_\_, page \_\_\_\_\_

Read by: \_\_\_\_\_

Gospel Acclamation and Verse: (E1 –4) Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_ (Omitted if not sung)

No. \_\_\_\_\_, page \_\_\_\_\_

Sung by: \_\_\_\_\_

Gospel Reading: (F1 – 10)

No. \_\_\_\_\_, page \_\_\_\_\_ (The Gospel is always proclaimed by a Priest or Deacon)

Homily

**Marriage Rite**

Exchange of Consent or Wedding Vows: (H1 – 2)

No. \_\_\_\_\_, page \_\_\_\_\_

Consent through questions \_\_\_\_\_

Memorized \_\_\_\_\_

Recited after priest \_\_\_\_\_

Read from book \_\_\_\_\_

Blessing of Rings: (I1 – 3)

No. \_\_\_\_\_, page \_\_\_\_\_

Double-ring ceremony \_\_\_\_\_

Single-ring ceremony \_\_\_\_\_

Unity Candle (Optional)

Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

Music: Title \_\_\_\_\_

Played/sung by: \_\_\_\_\_

Prayer of the Faithful: (J1 – 3)

No. \_\_\_\_\_, page \_\_\_\_\_ or personally composed \_\_\_\_\_

Read by: \_\_\_\_\_

Response: \_\_\_\_\_

**Liturgy of the Eucharist**

Presentation of the Gifts (Optional)

Brought forward by:

Bride and Groom \_\_\_\_\_

Parents \_\_\_\_\_

Best Man and Maid of Honor \_\_\_\_\_

Others \_\_\_\_\_

Music: Title \_\_\_\_\_

Played/sung by: \_\_\_\_\_



Prayers Over the Gifts: (K1 – 3)

No. \_\_\_\_\_, page \_\_\_\_\_

Preface: (L1 – 3)

No. \_\_\_\_\_, page \_\_\_\_\_

Holy, Holy, Holy: Recited \_\_\_\_\_ Sung \_\_\_\_\_

Musical Setting: \_\_\_\_\_

Memorial Acclamation: Recited \_\_\_\_\_ Sung \_\_\_\_\_

Musical Setting: \_\_\_\_\_

Great Amen: Recited \_\_\_\_\_ Sung \_\_\_\_\_

Musical Setting: \_\_\_\_\_

Our Father: (This must be recited or sung by all present)

Recited \_\_\_\_\_ Sung \_\_\_\_\_

Nuptial Blessing: (M1 – 3)

No. \_\_\_\_\_, page \_\_\_\_\_

Sign of Peace:

Roses to Parents \_\_\_\_\_ Bride and Groom only \_\_\_\_\_

Couple to Wedding party \_\_\_\_\_ Couple to Wedding Party and Parents \_\_\_\_\_

Music: Title \_\_\_\_\_

Played/sung by: \_\_\_\_\_

Lamb of God: Recited \_\_\_\_\_ Sung \_\_\_\_\_

Musical Setting: \_\_\_\_\_

Communion:

Under both species? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

If yes, Eucharistic Ministers (must be officially commissioned)

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Music: (These should be Eucharistic in nature – not love ballads)

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Prayer After Communion: (N1 – 3)

No. \_\_\_\_\_, page \_\_\_\_\_

Mary's Altar: (Optional) Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

Music: Title \_\_\_\_\_

Played/sung by: \_\_\_\_\_

Final Blessing: (O1 – 4)

No. \_\_\_\_\_, page \_\_\_\_\_

Recessional:

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Postlude(s) (This may be popular/secular music)

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

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Other Special Elements or Alternatives in Our Ceremony:

**Please Note: This form must be turned in to your consulting priest or deacon one (1) month prior to the wedding for review and approval.**

# St. Pius Wedding Liturgy Planning Form – WITHOUT MASS

Name of Groom: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Bride: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Wedding: \_\_\_\_\_ Time: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Rehearsal: \_\_\_\_\_

Priest or Deacon Celebrating: \_\_\_\_\_

Priests or Deacons Assisting: \_\_\_\_\_

Altar Server(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Organist/Pianist: \_\_\_\_\_

Instrumentalist(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Vocalist(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Host Couple: \_\_\_\_\_

Wedding Party:

Number of Bridesmaids (including the Maid/Matron of Honor): \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Groomsmen (including the Best Man): \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Ushers: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Flower Girls/Junior Bridesmaids: \_\_\_\_\_

Ring Bearer: Yes: \_\_\_\_\_ No: \_\_\_\_\_

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## **Before the Liturgy Begins**

Prelude Music: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Music for Seating of the Mothers: \_\_\_\_\_

**Procession Order**

The formal wedding procession typically begins with the seating of the mothers.

	Name	Role	Check Escort	One Met	Name	Role
1						
2						
3						
4						
5						
6						
7						
8						
9						
10						
11						
12						
13						
14						
15						
16						

Will the mothers light the 'Mother's Candles' by the Unity Candle before being seated? Y / N

Procession Music:

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*(Use only religious music from here until the Postlude)*

**Liturgy of the Word** (All page numbers refer to the booklet *Together for Life*)

Opening Prayer: (A1 – 4)

No. \_\_\_\_\_, page \_\_\_\_\_

Old Testament Reading: (B1 – 9)

No. \_\_\_\_\_, page \_\_\_\_\_

Read by: \_\_\_\_\_

Responsorial Psalm: (C1 – 7) [Must be a psalm setting; other songs or scripture cannot be substituted.]

No. \_\_\_\_\_, page \_\_\_\_\_

Read by: \_\_\_\_\_

or

Musical Setting: \_\_\_\_\_

Sung by: \_\_\_\_\_

New Testament Reading: (D1 – 13)

No. \_\_\_\_\_, page \_\_\_\_\_

Read by: \_\_\_\_\_

Gospel Acclamation and Verse: (E1 –4) Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_ (Omitted if not sung)

No. \_\_\_\_\_, page \_\_\_\_\_

Sung by: \_\_\_\_\_

Gospel Reading: (F1 – 10)

No. \_\_\_\_\_, page \_\_\_\_\_ (The Gospel is always proclaimed by a Priest or Deacon)

Homily

**Marriage Rite**

Exchange of Consent or Wedding Vows: (H1 – 2)

No. \_\_\_\_\_, page \_\_\_\_\_

Consent through questions \_\_\_\_\_ Memorized \_\_\_\_\_

Recited after priest \_\_\_\_\_ Read from book \_\_\_\_\_

Blessing of Rings: (I1 – 3)

No. \_\_\_\_\_, page \_\_\_\_\_

Double-ring ceremony \_\_\_\_\_ Single-ring ceremony \_\_\_\_\_

Unity Candle (Optional)

Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

Music: Title \_\_\_\_\_

Played/sung by: \_\_\_\_\_

Prayer of the Faithful: (J1 – 3)

No. \_\_\_\_\_, page \_\_\_\_\_ or personally composed \_\_\_\_\_

Read by: \_\_\_\_\_

Response: \_\_\_\_\_

Our Father: (This must be recited or sung by all present)'

Recited \_\_\_\_\_ Sung \_\_\_\_\_

Nuptial Blessing: (M1 – 3)

No. \_\_\_\_\_, page \_\_\_\_\_

Sign of Peace:

Roses to Parents \_\_\_\_\_

Bride and Groom only \_\_\_\_\_

Couple to Wedding party \_\_\_\_\_

Couple to Wedding Party and Parents \_\_\_\_\_

Music: Title \_\_\_\_\_

Played/sung by: \_\_\_\_\_

Mary's Altar: (Optional) Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

Music: Title \_\_\_\_\_

Played/sung by: \_\_\_\_\_

Final Blessing: (O1 – 4)

No. \_\_\_\_\_, page \_\_\_\_\_

Recessional:

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Postlude(s) (This may be popular/secular music)

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Other Special Elements or Alternatives in Our Ceremony:

**Please Note: This form must be turned in to your consulting priest or deacon one (1) month prior to the wedding for review and approval.**

*Key Points in Preparing for  
Your Wedding at St. Pius X Church in Rock Island*

1. When in doubt, ask your consulting priest or deacon.
2. **Book the Church** before you book the reception hall.
3. You **must** complete both parts of the diocesan marriage preparation program before the wedding. Exceptions can only be granted by the diocese and will only be requested in extreme circumstances.
4. Make sure **all of your paperwork** is turned in to your consulting priest or deacon at least 1 month before the ceremony. Diocesan **workshop certificates** and **sacramental certificates** should be in your file as soon as possible. Do not wait until the last minute to get your civil **Marriage License**. Bring the Marriage License to the rehearsal if you have not turned it in to your consulting priest or deacon earlier.
5. It is expected that all fees (Church, celebrant, musicians, etc.) will be taken care of no later than the rehearsal.
6. **Wedding Planning Forms** must be turned in **1 month** before the wedding ceremony.
7. One of our parish Musicians must be at your wedding. **No one else may set up the sound system.**
8. Make sure that everyone in the wedding party knows the time of the rehearsal and is punctual.
9. Unless special arrangements are made, the church is available **1 hour** before your ceremony. We suggest that decorations are in place 30 minutes before the wedding. Make sure that the ushers or host couple are assigned to clean up completely after the ceremony.
10. Throwing of rice, birdseed or confetti on parish grounds is not permitted.
11. The seasonal décor of the Church must not be moved in any way.
12. If you are adding “special touches” to your wedding or would like ideas to make your wedding unique, talk with your consulting priest or deacon. If you are using a professional wedding consultant, make sure that the consultant is working with parish staff.
13. **No** alcoholic beverages are permitted on church property, and tailgate parties are **not** permitted. **The wedding ceremony may be cancelled if signs of alcohol or other substances that interfere with a person’s ability to make a commitment are present or found on church property.**



Our Wedding Party

*Parents of the Bride*                      *Fred and Ethel Cue*

*Mother of the Groom*                      *Angela Public*

*Maid of Honor*                              *Cynthia Cue, sister of the bride*

*Best Man*                                      *Justin Public, brother of the groom*

*Bridesmaids*                                 *Jane Johnson, sister of the bride*  
   *Terrie Thomas, friend of the bride*

*Groomsmen*                                 *William White, friend of the groom*  
   *Ben Browne, friend of the groom*

*Presider*                                         *Father Michael Schaab*

*Organist*                                         *Roberta Schadesack*

*Vocalists*                                         *Greg Graf*  
   *Karen Manning*

*The Marriage of*  
*Suzanne Eileen Cue*  
*and*

*Joseph Quentin Public*

*Saturday, August 30, 2012*

*2:00 PM*

*St. Pius X Catholic Church*

*Rock Island, Illinois*

(Special thanks to Sacred Heart Church, Moline for ideas on this sample program)

PRELUDE

Evergreen  
*Streisand & Williams*  
*Let It Be*

LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

Lennon & McCartney  
*Te Deum*  
 Charpentier

*Presentation of the Gifts*

*Mr. & Mrs. Martin Cue, godparents  
 of the bride*

PROCESSIONAL

*Holy, Holy, Holy*

*Mass of Creation  
 Missalette # 34*

LITURGY OF THE WORD

*First Reading*

*Song of Songs 2:8-10, 14, 16a, 8:6-7a*  
*Mary Smith, friend of couple*

*Memorial Acclamation*

*Mass of Creation  
 Missalette # 38*

*Responsorial Psalm*

*Forever Will I Sing*  
 Bolduc

*Great Amen*

*Mass of Creation  
 Missalette # 42*

Response: **“Forever will I sing the  
 goodness of the Lord”**

*The Our Father*

*Second Reading*

*1 Corinthians 12:31 – 13:8a*  
*Ted Spring, friend of couple*

*Nuptial Blessing*

*Gospel Acclamation*

*Celtic Alleluia*  
 Missalette #209

*Sign of Peace*

*Mass of Creation  
 Missalette # 56*

*Gospel*

*John 15: 9 –12*

*Communion*

*Blest Are They, Missalette # 340*  
*Where there is Love, Missalette # 450*

*Homily*

*Mary’s Altar*

*Ave Maria*  
 Schubert

MARRIAGE RITE

*Final Blessing*

*Exchange of Vows and Rings*

RECESSIONAL

*Ode to Joy*  
 Beethoven

*Unity Candle*

*No Longer Two*  
 David Haas

*Intercessions*

Response: *“Lord, hear our prayer”*