

OUTLINE OF THE MARRIAGE PREPARATION PROCESS

MARRIAGE PREPARATION And PLANNING

Important Telephone Numbers

All Saints Church, main number 703-368-4500

Priests

Rev. Robert C. Cilinski, Pastor 703-393-2155

Rev. Francisco Mendez, Parochial Vicar 703-393-2152

Rev. James Tucker, Parochial Vicar 703-393-2153

Rev. Gregory Thompson, Parochial Vicar 703-393-2154

Permanent Deacons

Rev. Mr. John Eberlein 703-368-8322

Rev. Mr. Richard O'Connell 703-369-1925

Director of Music and Liturgy

Mr. Bill Atwood 703-393-2146

Natural Family Planning Couple

Matthew and Mary Lewandowski 703-335-7471

Liturgy Assistant

Mrs. Linda Gaynord 703-393-1430

Marriage Licenses

Prince William County and Manassas City 703-792-6040

I. INTRODUCTORY MEETING WITH PRIEST OR DEACON; TAKE THE FOCCUS TEST

II. MEET WITH THE MARRIED COUPLE; DISCUSS FOCCUS TEST

III. AFTER DATE IS SET BEGIN MUSIC AND LITURGY PLANNING BY CONTACTING DIRECTOR OF MUSIC AND LITURGY.

IV. ATTEND AN ENGAGED ENCOUNTER WEEKEND

V. SECOND MEETING WITH PRIEST OR DEACON; COMPLETE ALL PAPERWORK

VI. NATURAL FAMILY PLANNING CLASS

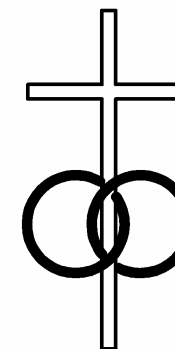
VII. FINAL MEETING WITH PRIEST OR DEACON

VIII. WEDDING REHEARSAL

IX. WEDDING LITURGY

at

ALL SAINTS CATHOLIC CHURCH



9300 STONEWALL ROAD
MANASSAS, VIRGINIA 20110
703-368-4500

Rev. Robert C. Cilinski	393-2155
Rev. Francisco Mendez	393-2152
Rev. James Tucker	393-2153
Rev. Gregory Thompson	393-2154

Introduction

Dear Engaged Couple:

Marriage is a profound step. It is a response to God's call to holiness and to love. In addition to being a time of great joy, preparing to respond to God's call to the married life is a time for reflection, study, and above all prayer. The clergy, staff and members of All Saints Parish are ready to help you in this time of preparation for the Sacrament of Marriage and for living out God's call.

This pamphlet contains an overview of information concerning the process of preparing for marriage. In addition, guidelines are offered regarding the marriage liturgy itself. It is important for you to review this information carefully. Since marriage is a response to God's call and your wedding ceremony takes place with the Christian community, the values that you express through your wedding should be those shared by that community in which you have chosen to be married. We offer these guidelines and all we can do to help to make this day joyful for all. We share your joy as you plan your Christian wedding and we pray that your marriage may be a holy and happy one.

The staff of All Saints

General Information

The back panel of this brochure contains an outline of the entire marriage preparation process.

After your first meeting with the priest or deacon who is preparing you, a date for the marriage will be confirmed by the priest/deacon. Secretaries are not permitted to set dates with you without a priest or deacon's approval.

There is a \$35.00 fee for the program to cover the cost of materials and training for the parish volunteers. Please make your check payable to All Saints Church and give it to your priest or deacon as soon as possible. This program fulfills all the marriage preparation requirements for the Diocese of Arlington.

Required Documents

- ◆ Baptismal Certificates – Catholic Christians must have a Baptismal certificate from their parish of Baptism issued within the past six months. Non-Catholic Christians must have a certificate or letter proving baptism in their church.
- ◆ Affidavits of Freedom to Marry – two for each person. Your priest or deacon will provide the forms.
- ◆ Marriage License – available at the courthouse of either one of the parties.

Liturgical Guidelines

Music – The music for your celebration should be carefully chosen keeping in mind the solemnity of the occasion. The following are guidelines for wedding music at All Saints. The music must be suitable for use the Catholic Church. Music is the assembly's sung prayer. Therefore, no secular music may be used. The sung liturgical music must invite the participation of all present and not merely entertain. It is your responsibility to contact the Director of Music to arrange a music planning session. All Saints will provide an organist for your wedding. The stipend the organist receives helps to support his livelihood. In the event a couple chooses to bring in their own organist, a bench fee of \$100.00 must be paid to the Director of Music and the couple must still arrange a meeting for approval of all music and outside musicians. It is strongly encouraged to have a cantor from the parish to sing for your wedding since they are familiar with the appropriate music selections and with protocol. All outside singers must have the approval of the Director of Music and the singer must have proper vocal training as well as some familiarity with Catholic liturgy. While the organ & piano will be the primary instruments at your wedding, instrumentalists such as harp, strings, flute or trumpet can make a nice addition to your wedding liturgy. Instrumentalists can be contracted through the church music office, or arranged by you privately. All instrumentalists are subject to final approval. Please note that the logistics surrounding multiple musicians such as arranging music, mailings, phone calls, e-mails and extra rehearsal time may incur extra stipends for all musicians involved. Many couples choose to make programs and worship aids for their guests, especially for those with non-Catholic guests. We encourage you to make a program for your wedding which will list the order of ceremony and the wedding party. Sample programs are available upon requests, and programs can be done through a professional printing company, on our own or through the music office (for an additional fee).

Photography – The church building and the sanctuary (the area surrounding the altar) are the most sacred spaces for the community, and a spirit of respect and quiet are to be maintained at all times. Photographers and videographers are not permitted at any time to be in the Sanctuary, including the steps. They also should remain behind the congregation, so as not to cause distraction during the Mass or ceremony. Video cameras are to

be stationary, remaining on a tripod. Flashes or special lighting for video may not be used during the Mass. After the Mass, if the couple has chosen to take pictures instead of a receiving line, flashes may be used. Please limit photo taking to 30 minutes after the wedding

Unity Candle – Although it has become popular in the U.S., a unity candle is not an official part of the wedding liturgy. Your priest or deacon may give permission for a unity candle during your wedding liturgy. It is set up on a small table to the side of the altar.

Aisle Runner – Because the central aisle is carpeted and sloped, runners are dangerous and therefore not permitted. A cloth one can snag heels and a plastic one is very slippery on the carpet.

Flowers – You are responsible for providing your own flowers. It is possible to share the cost of the flowers with other couples who will be married on the same day. Ask your priest or deacon or Liturgy Assistant Linda Gaynord to find out if there are other weddings that day and how to contact them. You are encouraged to leave up to two large displays in the Church for the Sunday liturgies.

Church Stipends and Music Fees – It is suggested that a monetary offering be made for the use of the Church. The suggested offering is \$150.00. If altar servers from the parish are used, it is customary to provide each a stipend of \$10.00. The basic fees for music are: Organist \$200.00; Cantor (song leader) \$125.00. Please contact our Director of Music and Liturgy, Bill Atwood for further details.

Stipend for your Priest or Deacon – It is customary to provide a stipend for the priest or deacon celebrating your wedding. The stipend is usually equal to that of the organist. Your priest or deacon spends many hours preparing for your wedding. This stipend is optional and is your free will gift.

Visiting Clergy – Visiting priests or deacons are welcome. Anyone who presides at a wedding is required by the Commonwealth of Virginia to be bonded. Please call your county courthouse for details. Non-Catholic clergy are welcome to participate in the ceremony as fully as possible. Please speak to the priest or deacon who will preside at your the ceremony to discuss their involvement.

Rice/Bird Seed/Confetti/Flower Petals – Because of the potential safety hazard to people and wildlife and the difficulty of cleanup, these and similar items are absolutely not permitted.

Other Questions – We are glad to help with any questions you might have. On the reverse is a list of useful phone numbers.