



Saint Gabriel the Archangel Catholic Church
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Fr. Chad King, Pastor

Deacon Jim and Barbara Walsh, Marriage Preparation Coordinators
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Marriage Preparation Information and Agreement

Congratulations on your engagement!

PARISH COUPLE MARRIAGE PREPARATION

Your wedding day is only the beginning of a lifetime commitment. Engaged couples - **please contact the parish office nine to twelve months** before your intended wedding date or before you set a wedding date to begin your preparation. You should plan to meet regularly during this period with the parish Marriage Preparation Coordinator. In addition to discussing the sacramental, spiritual and liturgical aspects of a wedding and marriage, you will participate in the “Facilitating Open Couple Communication, Understanding and Study” (FOCCUS) marriage preparation inventory process. During this time, you will also meet the parish Wedding Liturgy Coordinator and the Director of Sacred Music.

The various documents needed from you will be discussed, such as baptism certificates, certificates of completion from the diocesan Marriage Preparation programs, etc.

DIOCESAN COUPLE MARRIAGE FORMATION

Please view all details here: <https://phxmarriageprep.org/marriage-prep-process/>

The Parish Marriage Preparation Coordinator will help acquaint you with the diocesan marriage preparation requirements. These include a Marriage Life-Skills Course, God’s Plan for a Joy-Filled Marriage Seminar, and Natural Family Planning Instruction.

ARIZONA MARRIAGE LICENSE

This must be obtained by you and submitted to the parish office or to the wedding liturgy coordinator **at least two weeks prior to the wedding.**

WEDDING CEREMONY PLACES AND TIMES

Subject to availability, we celebrate weddings in the church (capacity 1400) and the chapel (capacity 80.) If Saturday is preference, the latest start time is 1:00 pm. Catholics recognize marriage as a sacrament and thus sacred. No outdoor or non-church wedding venues are permitted by the diocese. Typically, a rehearsal is scheduled the day prior to the wedding.

WEDDING LITURGY COORDINATOR is a parish representative who meets with you to prepare the wedding ceremony, conducts the wedding rehearsal, and guides the placement of flowers, decorations, etc. If you have your own wedding planner, in regard to the use of the church, they are subject to the parish staff involved in the event.

Church Fee

- \$600.00. A 50% non-refundable deposit, and this signed agreement, are due upon booking the wedding date.

The balance of the church fee and ALL other expenses are due 30 days prior to the wedding rehearsal.

Professional Fees – the following are to be placed in labeled envelopes, and collected by Wedding Liturgy Coordinator ideally **30 days prior to wedding rehearsal**.

- Director of Sacred Music / Organist: \$225 minimum
- Cantor / Soloist: \$150 *or* Vocal Quartet Ensemble: \$400
- Additional Instrumentalists: Fees established upon hire.
- Wedding Liturgy Coordinator: \$200.00
- Priest or Deacon: A personal offering is appropriate and appreciated.

MUSIC

The parish Director of Sacred Music is responsible for all music arrangements and serves as the musician for all weddings. Music must always comply in conformity with Catholic Theology, respect the practice of the parish, and maintain the religious nature of the sacred event. Secular and pre-recorded music are not permitted.

Musicians must be hired by the Director of Sacred Music **at least 60 days prior to the rehearsal**. Please do not invite any soloists or other musicians prior to discussing them with the Director of Sacred Music.

Order of Worship

A quality order of worship for the ceremony is available for a fee of \$225 for preparation and printing. If the couple or family decides to do this on their own, their program or order of worship must be approved by the Director of Sacred Music at least 30 days prior to the wedding.

PHOTOGRAPHERS/VIDEOGRAPHERS

The signed parish Photography Agreement must be received by the parish office **30 days or more prior to the wedding**. Photography and videography is permitted outside of the altar area, and are subject to the parish Wedding Liturgy Coordinator’s instructions. All photos/videos must be completed within 30 minutes of the ceremony.

FLOWERS AND DÉCOR

The signed parish Florist Agreement must be received by the parish office **30 days or more prior to the wedding**. Placement of flowers must be approved in advance with the Pastor and/or the parish Wedding Coordinator. Nothing may be attached in any way to the pews (such as flowers, ribbons, candles, etc.). The following are not permitted: aisle runners, rice, confetti, flower petals, bubbles or birdseed, etc.

We, the undersigned, understand the above instructions and agree to abide by all of the above information and standards.

Bride’ signature

Please print Bride’s name

Groom’s signature

Please print Groom’s name