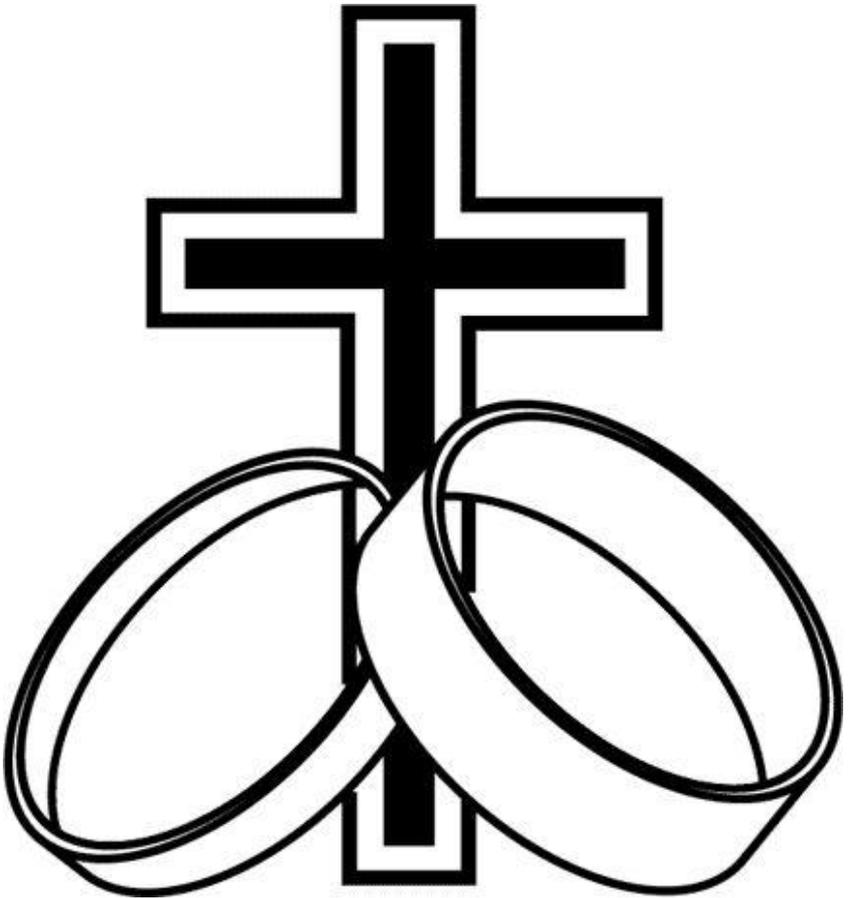


*Wedding Information*  
*Resurrection of Our Lord Church*



LIVE + JESUS  
Resurrection of Our Lord Rectory  
2000 Shelmire Avenue  
Philadelphia, PA 19152

Dear Friends,

Congratulations on your recent engagement. I hope that this time of preparation and planning is a special time of grace for you. It is my prayer that you grow in appreciation of the love you have for one another and that you may also grow in your appreciation of God's love for each of you.

I offer this booklet as a starting point for your wedding at Resurrection of Our Lord Church. Hopefully, it will help to focus your attention on the Sacrament of Marriage which you will be receiving. I cannot stress enough the importance and the sacredness of your wedding day. The guidelines and suggestions and the rules contained in the booklet are offered, not to challenge or limit you, but to offer you guidance and direction based on the collective experiences of this Church.

As you begin this "season" of preparation, know that I am praying for you. I am truly happy that you have chosen to celebrate your Sacrament here in Resurrection of Our Lord Church. Our beautiful church will provide a proper and fitting environment to the sacredness and solemnity of your wedding day. May your days of preparation be blessed with God's love.

Cordially,  
Father Jim DeGrassa~ Pastor

**Information  
for  
Couples Anticipating Marriage  
at  
Resurrection of Our Lord Church**

It is the sincere wish of the priests of the parish that your wedding celebration be a fitting, sacred and joyous beginning of many happy and holy years of married life. With this in mind, the following is offered for your information regarding your wedding at Resurrection of Our Lord Church.

**SCHEDULING**

Weddings may be scheduled for most Saturdays that are not holydays. Friday evening weddings may be scheduled at the availability of the church and the priest celebrant. Normally, we would prefer that no Friday wedding be scheduled after 5:00 P.M. Weddings on Saturday may typically be scheduled for 10:30 A.M., 12:00 P.M. and 2:00 P.M. Arrangements must be made at least six months before the anticipated wedding day. Please call the rectory (215-745-3211) and make an appointment to see a priest about your arrangements.

**PRE-MARITAL INSTRUCTIONS (PRE-CANA)**

These are required for all couples anticipating marriage. Regional pre-marital instructions are offered by the Archdiocese and are scheduled in the Spring and Fall of each year. A schedule of times and places is available at the rectory or through the Family Life Bureau:

[@archphila.org/evangelization/famlife/marriage\\_prep/marriage](http://archphila.org/evangelization/famlife/marriage_prep/marriage)

**PREMARITAL QUESTIONNAIRE**

The Church requires that persons anticipating marriage answer a series of questions designed to establish their freedom to marry and their awareness of the nature and sanctity of marriage. Couples should make an appointment with the parish priest who is responsible for this part of the preparations. The appointment should be made no earlier than 6 months or later than 3 or 4

months before the marriage date. The following documents are required for presentation at this time: baptismal certificates from the church where the sacrament was administered, issued within 6 months of the date of the marriage and a certificate stating that the couple has attended the Pre-Cana conference.

Each party must be able to provide two witnesses attesting in writing to the parties' readiness for marriage. The Witness Questionnaire will be given to the couple by the priest at this meeting.

## **SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES**

Any case that may require special procedures (e.g., marriage between persons of different religions, marriage of minors, marriage of persons who have been previously married or attempted marriage before, etc.) should be brought to the attention of the priest immediately.

## **Music**

Marriage in the Church is a Sacrament, a religious and sacred event. All music selected for the church must reflect the sacred character of the ceremony and must follow the guidelines of the Archdiocesan Commission on Sacred Music. These may be discussed with Tina Nase, the Director of Music (215-745-3211 ext 109). You should call the Director of Music as soon as possible so that you may secure her services for the occasion of your wedding. Fees for our official organist and singer are mandatory whether their services are used or not. Fees for any other organist, singer, or musician(s) you may choose are your added financial responsibility. Couples meet with the Music Director to plan their wedding music. Couples are to bring the music fees to that meeting.

## **FLOWERS**

Your flowers are welcome at the altar to give glory to God and enhance the beauty of your marriage setting. It is expected that

they will remain in the church and not be removed after the ceremony. Any bows, etc., placed on the pews are to be put on with ribbon only. No tacks, staples, or sticky tape are to be used on the pews. We do not allow the use of an aisle runner as these have proven to be a danger to those walking up the aisle.

### **PHOTOGRAPHERS**

Please advise your photographer to consult the priest before the ceremony. No photography is permitted in the sanctuary area during the ceremony. The photographer should not become a distraction to the congregation in any way. Posed pictures may be taken after the ceremony provided there is time before the next scheduled liturgical event at the church. On Saturdays, pictures are not permitted to be taken in the church after 4:00 P.M. because of the pending 4:30 P.M. Mass. This will allow adequate time for your pictures in the church while allowing the people who are coming to the 4:30 P.M. Mass to park conveniently near the church.

### **BIRDSEED, RICE, BALLOONS AND CONFETTI**

These cause a real and immediate danger to your guests and our parishioners. Please ask that your guests refrain from throwing any of the items noted above. Archdiocesan Guidelines do not allow the use of the Unity Candle. Flower Girls are not to scatter petals in the aisle. No runners are to be used in the aisle.

### **ALCHOLIC BEVERAGES**

These are not permitted on the property at any time during the rehearsal or before, during or after the wedding ceremony.

### **LITURGICAL OBLIGATIONS**

The bride and groom are encouraged to work closely with the celebrant in planning the wedding liturgy. They should consult with him regarding the selection of readings, prayers, hymns for the celebration. To aid in the selection, a booklet of options will be supplied by the priest. Note that couples are not permitted to develop their own form for the exchange of consent. Should a wedding booklet be created, the priest should be consulted before printing.

## **FINANCIAL OBLIGATIONS**

All payments are to be given in cash (no checks because they have bounced in the past). The church offering is \$600.00. An offering for the altar servers(usually, three) of \$15.00 each is appropriate. There is also a \$35.00 charge for the church sexton who prepares the church for the wedding and cleans up after the ceremony. These payments are to be given before or the day of the wedding rehearsal.

## **REHEARSAL**

Rehearsals are subject to the availability of the church and the priest. It is preferred that the priest officiating at the wedding conduct the rehearsal. This is especially so in the case of a guest priest. Typically, there should be one day separating the rehearsal and the day of the wedding.

The following should be brought to the rehearsal:

- 1) The complete marriage license as received from the city or the county.
- 2) The church offering.
- 3) The offering for the altar servers.
- 4) The offering for the church sexton.

## **Spiritual Preparations**

As you attend to the many details of your wedding day, you should give particular attention to that which will have lasting impact on your married life: spiritual preparation. The wedding taking place in church should be a visible manifestation of the fact that you take the faith seriously. Serious Catholics practice their faith by attending to the obligation of going to Mass on Sundays. As you approach this sacred moment between you and God you should be in the state of grace. That is, you should be free of any serious sins, such as missing Mass on Sundays by making a good confession. To receive the sacrament when one is conscious of serious sin that has not be confessed and forgiven is a sacrilege. This is hardly a good way to begin one's married life. You will find that the priests of the parish are always there to forgive and not to ask questions.

## **OTHER GUIDELINES**

Due to tightness of our liturgical schedules, and out of consideration for all those participating, it is of the utmost importance that rehearsals and weddings start promptly at the scheduled time. Extreme tardiness will result in a truncated ceremony.

**Dress and decorum at both the rehearsal and the wedding should reflect respect for the house of God and the coming of Christ in Word and Sacrament.**

In consideration of the next wedding or scheduled service, the parking lot should be vacated by your party and guests as soon as possible after your wedding.

Common sense and good taste are, perhaps, the best guidelines in preparing for and celebrating your Wedding Day. It is our intention to do all we can to preserve and manifest the meaning, beauty, and dignity of the Sacrament of Matrimony. Please do not hesitate to ask or tell us anything that might assist you in attaining the same end.

**For the wedding rehearsal day, the participants will enter the church through the doors by the handicap ramp.**

## **Check List for Couples**

**Before the wedding rehearsal the following needs to be completed:**

- ✓ **Meet with the priest**
- ✓ **Baptismal Certificates Shown**
- ✓ **Witness Forms Returned**
- ✓ **P.N.I. Completed**
- ✓ **Payments Received**
- ✓ **Marriage License Issued**
- ✓ **PreCana Certificate Received**
- ✓ **Readings and Prayers Selected**
- ✓ **Music Selected**
- ✓ **Procession Order Outlined**

**Contact Information:**