

Check List

9 months prior to your wedding:

- _____ Meet with Father Cory
- _____ Pay deposit of \$250.00 to secure the date of your wedding.

Preparation:

- _____ Pre-marital Inventory
- _____ Meet with mentor couple
- _____ Attend Archdiocesan Pre-Marriage Retreat

Necessary Documents:

- _____ Baptismal Certificate
- _____ Marriage License
It takes approximately (10) days to get a license. Once you receive your license, review it to assure its accuracy. The license must be delivered to the parish **7 days prior to the wedding.**

Music:

- _____ Meet with a parish musician to select appropriate music for the wedding liturgy. Please call Kaye Cassidy to set up this meeting.

Liturgy:

- _____ Meet with Father Cory to plan liturgy
- _____ Submit readings and music selections to Kaye Cassidy, Director of Liturgy

One week prior to your wedding:

- _____ Pay remainder of the church fee
- _____ Submit marriage license to the parish

651-426-3245 Fax: 651-653-3554
frcory@stjudeofthelake.org
bgaunt@stjudeofthelake.org

The Sacrament of MATRIMONY



Marriage Preparation

St. Jude of the Lake Catholic Church
700 Mahtomedi Avenue
Mahtomedi, Minnesota

Accompanists:

Isabel Braga-Henebry
brag9184@stthomas.edu
605-951-5167

Sharon Lehner
piano.sharon@hotmail.com
651-308-1822

Jim Waldo
jwwaldo@aol.com
612-309-9620

Tony Och
amoch@stkate.edu
651-318-8469

Aaron VanDanacker
avandanacker@gmail.com
763-370-5851

Kathryn Lien
kathrynannlien@gmail.com
651-387-8996

Soloists

Judy Gaunt
judy.gaunt@gmail.com
561-315-4261

Ann Clark
annsclark2003@gmail.com
651-276-5597

Jim Waldo
jwwaldo@aol.com
612-309-9620

Peg Sutherland
pegsutherland15@gmail.com
651-770-4767

Mary Jo Lewis
mjk1332@yahoo.com
651-331-6582

Aaron VanDanacker
avandanacker@gmail.com
763-370-5851

Additional Instrumentalists (not required):

Violin: Elliott Skogen - elliottskogen@gmail.com

Violin: Cierra Hill - cierraalishill@gmail.com

Cello: Greg Byers - cellogreg@gmail.com

Trumpet: Judy Gaunt - judy.gaunt@gmail.com

Guitar: David Feily - daftrumpet27@gmail.com

Candles

All candles are restricted to the altar area. The lighting of a unity candle during the ceremony is not necessary. If you desire to have this ritual, then you must provide the candles and the holders for the candles. Candles and stands are available from your florist. The church can provide a simple candle holder for your use as well as a table for the candleholder.

Aisle Cloth

For safety and liability reasons, the use of an aisle runner is not permitted.

Ushers

To help the wedding begin on time, please instruct the ushers to begin seating the guests immediately on arrival.

Security

The church building at Saint Jude of the Lake is open during the time of your wedding and people other than your guests have access to the building. For this reason, please do not leave valuables unattended. Remove all items and lock them in the trunk of your car before the wedding ceremony. Saint Jude of the Lake is not responsible for the loss or theft of any personal belongings.

Rehearsal

The wedding rehearsal should be scheduled with the priest or deacon presiding at your wedding. Normally, the rehearsal will be held at 6:00 pm on the evening before your wedding. All members of the wedding party should be present at the time scheduled for the rehearsal. Please encourage everyone to arrive on time. The rehearsal lasts approximately one hour.

Clean-up

Food and beverages must be confined to the dressing areas. You are responsible for removing all wedding decorations, cleaning the dressing rooms, and removing such things as flower boxes, film packages and programs. Please designate someone for this task. Dressing rooms must be cleaned before the wedding. The church must be cleaned before and after the celebration. We strive to treat our house of worship with respect.

MARRIED CHRISTIANS, IN VIRTUE OF THE SACRAMENT OF MATRIMONY, SIGNIFY AND SHARE IN THE MYSTERY OF THAT UNITY AND FRUITFUL LOVE WHICH EXISTS BETWEEN CHRIST AND HIS CHURCH; THEY HELP EACH OTHER TO ATTAIN TO HOLINESS IN THEIR MARRIED LIFE AND IN THE REARING AND EDUCATION OF THEIR CHILDREN; AND THEY HAVE THEIR OWN SPECIAL GIFT AMONG THE PEOPLE OF GOD.

(RITE OF CHRISTIAN MARRIAGE)

The staff at Saint Jude of the Lake congratulates you on your engagement. We welcome the opportunity to assist in your formation for the Sacrament of Marriage and the planning of your wedding liturgy. This booklet provides the guidelines for those preparing for marriage at Saint Jude of the Lake. If we can be of further assistance, please contact the parish office at telephone number (651) 426-3245 or by email at kaye@stjudeofthelake.org.

CONTENTS

Preparation Process	1
Required Documents	2
Costs	3
Wedding Liturgy	4
Music Guidelines	5
Photography	6
Church Use Guidelines	6

PREPARATION PROCESS

Marriage is one of the most important commitments a person can make. The Catholic Church requires marriage preparation to help a couple understand this commitment. The preparation process at Saint Jude of the Lake is designed to help you build a solid foundation for a life-long covenant of love.

Marriage preparation at Saint Jude of the Lake must begin at least six months prior to the actual wedding date. Either the bride or groom must be a registered and active member of the parish. An active parishioner is one who participates regularly in the Sunday Eucharist and is involved in regular stewardship of one's time, talent and financial treasure with the Saint Jude parish. A wedding date is scheduled after consultation with the pastor and partial payment of the church donation.

Proper formation for Christian marriage has several components, each of which is important to a strong and successful marriage. The following components are the basic requirements each couple must meet in order to be married at Saint Jude of the Lake:

- 1. Pre-Marriage Inventory:** Each couple will complete an inventory, which is designed to help the couple identify their strengths and weaknesses as individuals and as a couple. The couple will review the results of this inventory with one of our marriage mentor couples. The couple will also discuss the meaning of a sacramental marriage. The cost of the inventory is included in the wedding fee.
- 2. Archdiocesan Pre-Marriage Conference:** This is normally a weekend retreat you attend with other engaged couples. The conference involves large and small group discussions as well as time to discuss issues as a couple. The conference will be very helpful in addressing different aspects of Christian marriage. The fee for the conference is your responsibility and is not included as part of the church fee.

PHOTOGRAPHY

The church is a house of worship and prayer and we request that photographers conduct themselves in a manner of reverence and respect. Flash photography is allowed only during the procession and recession, but not during the ceremony.

Preferably, pictures should be taken prior to the ceremony and must be finished 30 minutes before the starting time of the wedding. The time for taking pictures after the liturgy is very limited, because of other obligations for use of the church space. If your wedding is at 2:00 pm, all picture taking should be completed by 3:30 pm in respect for those arriving for the Sacrament of Reconciliation. No sanctuary furnishings should be moved without the permission of the wedding coordinator. Flash may not be used for still photos during the ceremony. The photographer should consult with the presider or wedding coordinator before the wedding.

Video-taping of the wedding ceremony should be done with a tripod or fixed camera, using available light only. Please consult the wedding coordinator before positioning the video camera.

CHURCH USE GUIDELINES

No Alcohol—Mood Altering Chemicals Policy

Absolutely NO alcoholic beverages or drugs are permitted on church premises, including the parking lot, before, during or after the wedding or rehearsal, unless prior arrangements have been made for the use of Kohler Hall or the Ministry Center. Smoking is not allowed in the building.

Flowers, Rice, etc.

Flower petals (real or artificial) may not be strewn in the aisle. They stain the floor and pose a danger. Rice may not be used either inside or outside the church. All decorations, including flowers, must be removed immediately after the wedding, unless specific arrangements have been made.

Weddings are not normally scheduled during Advent and Lent. Should you require a date during those seasons, a more simple ceremony will be required. In addition, the seasonal decorations must remain in place. You should contact the Director of Music and Liturgy prior to making any plans for a wedding during these seasons.

Each couple is welcome to use the worship space for three (3) hours on the date of the wedding. The bride's room will be available for the same time.

MUSIC

Please email Becky Gaunt to set up a music planning meeting (at least 2 months prior to the date of your wedding). bgaunt@stjudeofthelake.org

Music is an integral part of the wedding liturgy. Any vocal composition having no reference to the sacred character of the sacrament, even though it represents good art, is unsuitable for the wedding liturgy. The performance of this music may be more appropriate at the reception.

The Director of Music and Liturgy will assist you in the selection of music for the ceremony. In case of doubt about the propriety of music for your wedding, the Director will make the final decision.

It is strongly recommended that only parish musicians sing and play for wedding liturgies. This policy ensures a desirable continuity with the parishes regular worship life. It also helps to guarantee that the service will go smoothly because presider, cantor, pianist and instrumentalists are used to working with each other as well as within the demands of the space.

You are welcome to request any of the regular cantors and pianists, or one can be assigned to you. Musicians are to be paid in full before the date of the ceremony, unless other arrangements have been made. The customary fee for soloists and accompanists is \$150.00. However, individual musicians may require a higher fee.

3. Sunday Mass: You seek to have your marriage witnessed within the community of Saint Jude of the Lake. As such, the community expects you to worship with them and participate in the life of the parish. Your presence at Sunday Mass is an outward sign of your desire to have God as part of your marriage.

4. Reconciliation: The regular celebration of the Sacrament of Reconciliation is critical to the life of holiness and prepares a couple to receive the graces of marriage.

5. Marriage meetings: Each couple will meet with the priest or deacon who will witness the marriage. The number of meetings depend on the readiness of the couple. One meeting will cover the marriage liturgy.

REQUIRED DOCUMENTS

1. You must provide a recent copy of your **baptismal certificate** from the parish in which you were baptized. The certificate should be requested no earlier than six months prior to the wedding date. You should call the church of your baptism, advise that you are soon to be married and request that a copy of your baptismal certificate be mailed to you. You should submit the certificate to the priest or deacon preparing you for marriage.

2. The State of Minnesota requires you to obtain a valid **marriage license**. The license must be used within 6 months of it being issued. It takes approximately ten (10) days to obtain a marriage license. You may obtain the license from the county recorder of deeds. Please review your marriage license and ensure that the names are spelled correctly. Once you have verified the accuracy of the license, please deliver the license to the parish office. The license should be delivered to the parish office no less than seven (7) days prior to the wedding date.

3. The priest or deacon will complete a pre-nuptial questionnaire with the couple during the formation process.

4. A certificate of completion of the pre-marriage retreat must be provided.

5. Freedom to marry forms may be required to demonstrate readiness of the person to marry.

6. Other documents may be required by Church law.

COSTS

Saint Jude of the Lake requests a minimum donation of \$500 from couples who have their marriage witnessed at the parish. A deposit of \$250 must be submitted at the time a wedding date is scheduled. The remaining \$250 is due no less than seven (7) days prior to the wedding date. Checks should be made payable to Saint Jude of the Lake Church.

The fee covers the following services provided by the parish:

- ◆ Pre-marriage inventory fees and expenses
- ◆ Individual marriage preparation meetings with the priest or deacon and a mentor couple
- ◆ A liturgical music planning consultation
- ◆ A meeting with the priest or deacon to discuss the liturgy
- ◆ Maintenance costs
- ◆ A wedding coordinator who will be present at your rehearsal and on the day of your ceremony to assist you
- ◆ Use of the church for three hours on your wedding day and one hour for your rehearsal

The fee does not cover the following expenses:

- ◆ The pre-marriage retreat
- ◆ Pianist Stipend
- ◆ Cantor / Soloist Stipend
- ◆ Instrumentalist Stipend (optional)

Couples must contract individually with their musicians. The musicians may charge additional fees should there be special requests or additional rehearsals required.

If you are completing your marriage preparation elsewhere but are celebrating the wedding at Saint Jude of the Lake, then the fee is \$400. If you are completing your marriage preparation at St. Jude, but are celebrating the wedding elsewhere, then the fee is \$200.

THE WEDDING LITURGY

Normally, a priest or deacon of this parish will witness your marriage. He will begin helping you prepare for the actual ceremony about three months before the wedding date. If you would like to have a family member or friend preside, we will need his name and address along with the assurance that you have confirmed his availability with him. We require this information as early as possible in the preparation process so that we can send appropriate delegation authority.

The priest or deacon will guide you through the various aspects of the ceremony and give you a book which will help you choose readings and other important parts of the service. A form will be provided to assist you in planning the wedding liturgy.

Readers: You may have up to three readers at the liturgy; one for the first reading, one for the second reading and one for the reading of the petitions. You may also have the same person do all three. When choosing readers for the wedding liturgy, please make certain that they have experience in public speaking.

Gift Bearers: If your wedding involves a Mass, then you may also have 2-4 people bring up the gifts.

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion: If your wedding involves a Mass and you want to have Holy Communion under both forms, then you will need 2-3 people to assist with distributing Holy Communion. These people must be Catholic and Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion in their respective parishes.

Wedding Party: Minnesota law requires that witnesses to marriage (best man and maid/matron of honor) must be at least 16 years of age. There are no legal requirements for the other members of the wedding party. However, children in the wedding party should be old enough to follow directions. They are usually seated with the parents of the couple for the duration of the ceremony.

Weddings are scheduled on Friday evenings, usually from 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm, and Saturdays at 11:00 am and 2:00 pm.