

Saint John Bosco Parish of Branford, CT

Wedding Guidelines

SCHEDULING YOUR WEDDING DATE

- I. Marriages must be scheduled at least six (6) months in advance of the wedding date. The wedding offering is \$600.00 and includes:
Organist, Cantor (soloist), Marriage Preparation, FACET, and a Donation to the Church
- II. The offering must be made in order to confirm the wedding date. Written confirmation of the date will be sent to you upon receipt of the offering. It is *TOTALLY* refundable if the wedding is canceled.

LICENSE REQUIREMENTS

- I. A marriage license can be obtained at the Town Clerk's Office in the town in which you will be married. The Branford Town Clerk charges a license fee of \$50.00 (cash or check only), and the license must be obtained no more than sixty-five (65) days prior to the date of your wedding. The Branford Town Clerk's Office is located at the Town Hall, 1019 Main Street, Branford, CT 06405. Office hours are 8:30 am - 4:00 pm, Monday through Friday. The Town Clerk can be reached at (203) 315-0678.
- II. The license should be dropped off to the Parish Office the week of your wedding.

CHURCH REQUIREMENTS

- I. The *FACET* Marital Inventory, which is a requirement of the Archdiocese of Hartford, must be taken.
- II. When the *FACET* results are received, you will be notified. One of our priests or deacon will assist you in reviewing the results.
- III. You must complete the *Pre-Matrimonial Inventory (PMI)*, an official Church biographical document and statement of intent that each individual must sign, with one of our priests or deacon.
- IV. You must completed the "Better Together" Online Marriage Preparation program, by signing up at www.hartfordmarriage.com. Once you have completed the program, please forward the certificate to Emily Naylor in the Parish Office at enaylor@saintjohnboscobranford.org.
- V. Couples not baptized at St. Mary, St. Therese, or St. Elizabeth Church in Branford must obtain an updated copy of their Baptismal certificate from their church of Baptism, issued within the last six months. Baptismal certificates (as well as First Communion and Confirmation certificates, if not made at the same church of Baptism) should be mailed or hand-delivered to Emily Naylor in the Parish Office as soon as they are obtained.

MUSIC AT YOUR WEDDING

- I. To plan music, please review and select music from the attached "Wedding Music Suggestions" sheet and contact Jorge Prego, Director of Music at St. Mary, via email at jorgeprego@hotmail.com.
- II. If you plan to have guest musicians, contact Emily Naylor in the Parish Office as soon as possible.

READINGS

- I. You may choose the readings and prayers for your wedding from the selections contained in the “Together For Life” book.
- II. The fold out page at the back of this book should be completed with all the necessary information and selections you’ve chosen. You’ll review these selections with the priest who is celebrating your wedding.
- III. Please bring this book with you the night of your rehearsal.

REHEARSAL

- I. A rehearsal time should be scheduled with Emily Naylor by calling (203) 488-1607, ext. 10 or emailing enaylor@saintjohnboscobranford.org. This can be done at any time before your wedding date.
- II. We often have more than one event on the same evening, so it is **VERY IMPORTANT** that everyone participating in the rehearsal (bridal party, readers, parents, etc.) arrive on time.

PHOTOGRAPHER

- I. Pictures can be taken during the ceremony and afterwards in the church.
- II. Videotaping may be done only from a stationary position and should not interfere with the wedding sacrament. Drones are not allowed inside the church.

WEDDING DAY

- I. On Saturdays we often have multiple Masses scheduled, so please be considerate and be on time.
- II. Throwing petals, rice, confetti, birdseed, or any other articles is prohibited inside or outside the church.
- III. Traditionally, flowers ordered for the sanctuary for your wedding ceremony remain in the church for all the weekend Masses.
- IV. It is traditional for the best man to tip the altar servers. A suggested tip is \$5.00 - \$10.00.

MISCELLANEOUS

- I. All State/Archdiocesan COVID guidelines at the time of your wedding will be followed, if applicable.
- II. Due to safety concerns, we do not permit the use of an aisle runner.
- III. At both St. Mary Church and St. Therese Church there are nineteen (19) pews on both the left and right sides of the center aisle. Pew bows may be attached only with elastics. ***NO TAPE OR TACKS ARE TO BE USED.***

CLERGY

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| Rev. Daniel Keefe | (203) 488-1607 | | fr.keefe@aohct.org |
| Rev. John Gancarz | (203) 488-1607 | | fr.gancarz@aohct.org |
| Deacon Bob Macaluso | (203) 376-5747 | | rjmac27@aol.com |

If you'll be having a guest priest as your wedding celebrant, please notify the Parish Office as soon as possible

If you have any questions about your wedding, please do not hesitate to contact Emily Naylor in the Parish Office at (203) 488-1607, ext. 10 or enaylor@saintjohnboscobranford.org.