

Liturgy of the Word

First Reading

(Choose one from pages 19-29)

Responsorial Psalm

Can be sung or recited.

(Choose one from pages 30-34)

Second Reading

(Choose one from pages 35-49)

Gospel Reading

Read by the priest.

(Choose one from pages 51-58)

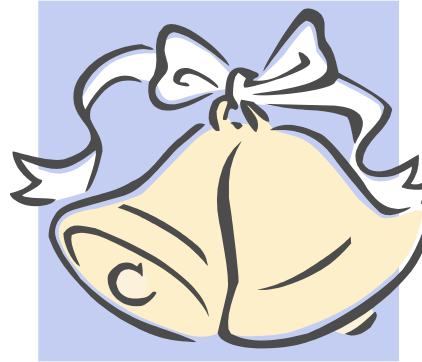
Prayers of Faithful

Prepared by the couple.

(Samples can be found on pages 66-69)

Declaration of Consent

We will use form 1 (p. 63)



NOTES

THE SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE



St. Thomas the Apostle Parish

P.O. Box 348 – 715 Centre Road
Waterdown, Ontario

L0R 2H0

905-689-4857

stthomaswaterdown@hamiltondiocese.com

Pastor: Fr. Francis Noronha, CSC

Deacon: Mark Shaw

Parish Administrator: Luisa Perini Parkes



The occasion of your marriage is a very special time for you, your families, and friends. Because it is FIRST and FOREMOST the giving and receiving of a SACRAMENT, and therefore an act of WORSHIP, your wedding ceremony must not only reflect your personal tastes, but also the Faith of the Church. With this in mind, we ask you to please observe the following:

Regular Sunday Mass

You are invited to participate in our Sunday Masses. Your worship together will bring God's blessings on your love and guide your preparation.

Marriage preparation Course

All couples are required to complete a Marriage Preparation Course. The Diocesan Family Life Office offers several courses each year. Please contact the Family Ministry Office to register for a course 905-528-7988. We suggest you register immediately to assure a place on your chosen date.

Rehearsals

The wedding and the rehearsal will start on time. Please remind the people involved in the rehearsal to dress appropriately and maintain a respectful quiet in the church. All the wedding party, parents, readers, and gift bearers should be present for the rehearsal. Please be sure to bring the four (4) offering envelopes at this time.

Photographer/Video



One official photographer is free to work using dignity and common sense. They should see Father in the sacristy before the wedding ceremony. Photographers are not allowed up the steps into the sanctuary. Please remember the church is not a photo studio, but the House of God. Please remind your guests that cell phones must be turned off when entering the church.

Times of Marriage

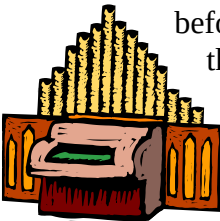
Normally weddings occur on Friday or Saturday at 1:00 p.m. or 3:00 p.m. Other days and times can be arranged with the Priest. Sunday weddings are not permitted.

Flowers and Other Decorations

The decision to have floral arrangements in the church is left solely to the discretion of the bride and groom. The arrangement of the flowers can be discussed with Father. Flower arrangements placed directly on the Altar are not permitted and adhesive tape may not be used to attach pew bows. A time for decorating the church should be pre-arranged with Father.

Music

The choice of music must be appropriate for the worship of God. Thus, secular music is not appropriate during the celebration of the Sacred Rite of Marriage. At St. Thomas the Apostle Parish, only our parish musicians are allowed to play and lead singing at weddings – exceptions will not be permitted. Pre-recorded music (CD) is not permitted. Please contact one of our parish musicians at least six months before your wedding to make arrangements with them.



Jane MacCabe-Freeman	905-689-7871
Nancy Bodsworth	416-388-3595
Mera Roche-Couture	905-520-7904

Musicians: Fees can be arranged with the musicians and paid directly to them in advance.

Mixed Marriages: The Non-Catholic partner is invited to understand the Catholic Faith and its beliefs since the children will be baptized and raised in the Catholic Faith. The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (R.C.I.A.) is available, as well as personal instructions, for those desiring to enter the Catholic Faith.

Forms

- Marriage License: must be obtained from City Hall within three months before the ceremony and then brought to the Parish Office.
- Baptism Certificate:
 - i) Catholics must obtain a new copy of the Baptism Certificate from the parish in which they were baptised within six months of the initial meeting with Father.
 - ii) Non-Catholics may bring a copy of their original Baptism Certificate to Father as soon as possible.
- Reading Selection Page: is to be completed and returned to Father at the final meeting before the wedding.

Fees and Offerings

These are to be given to the Priest at the wedding rehearsal in four (4) separate envelopes.

- 1a.) Parishioner offering: \$300.00 or
- 1b.) Non-Parishioner (Out of Boundary): \$500.00
- 2.) Altar Server #1: \$25.00
- 3.) Altar Server #2: \$25.00
- 4.) Priest Celebrant – This honorarium is left to the generosity of the bride and groom. *(Please keep in mind the time Father has spent with you in preparation for your wedding, the rehearsal and the wedding ceremony and completing your paperwork.)*

