

The Sacrament of Matrimony

Requirements and information for marriage preparation

Marriage Preparation Requirements

- Before meeting with the priest, you need to collect copies of your sacraments (Baptism, First Communion, and Confirmation), and take the Marriage Preparation or Pre-Cana classes and the Natural Family Planning class. After completing the classes and gathering your documents, please call to set-up a meeting with the priest to complete the rest of the process.
- For more information/links, to the **Marriage Preparation or Pre-Cana classes** and the **Natural Family Planning class**, please send us an email at church@stroseut.org



Final Steps in the Marriage Preparation Process

- A prenuptial questionnaire with the priestst must be completed as part of the process.
- Each of you must choose one witness who has known you for a number of years and can attest you both have never been married before.

Civil Marriage or Previous Marriages:

- If you are civilly married you need to bring a **copy of your marriage certificate**. If not, You will need to buy a marriage license a week before the wedding.
- If you were previously married to a different person, even civilly, we have to do the appropriate annulment paperwork.

Canonical Form

- Catholic marriages are normally celebrated in a Catholic church and before a priest or deacon and two witnesses.
- Permission is required for:

- Marriage to a baptized non-Catholic (dispensation)
- Marriage to an unbaptized individual (dispensation)

Timeline & Scheduling

- Couples are encouraged to contact the parish at least 6–9 months before their desired wedding date.
- A wedding date is not confirmed until the initial meeting with the priest and required paperwork has begun.
 - Please provide multiple date options for the wedding.

Music & Liturgy Planning

- All music and readings must follow Catholic liturgical guidelines.
- Secular music is not permitted during the liturgy.
- Couples usually meet with the parish music minister or coordinator.

Fees & Offerings

- Parishes may request a wedding fee or stipend, which helps cover church use and administrative costs. Saint Rose's is \$450.00.
- A separate offering for the priest or deacon is customary but optional.
- The choir is an additional fee.

Photography & Videography Guidelines

- Photographers and videographers must follow parish guidelines to preserve the sacred nature of the liturgy.
- Flash photography and movement during certain parts of the Mass may be restricted.

Rehearsal

- A wedding rehearsal is usually scheduled and led by the parish, often a couple days before the wedding.
- Attendance of the couple, wedding party, and anyone involved is typically required.