

Frequently Asked Questions About Getting Married at Holy Family

1. **How soon do we need to reserve our wedding date?**

Active parishioners may reserve the date up to 18 months prior to the wedding. Non-parishioners may reserve the date no earlier than 12 months prior to the wedding. It is recommended that initial contact with the priest, and parish office be made no later than 8 months prior to allow appropriate time for pre-nuptial preparation. (Please note that the date will be reserved upon receipt of your application and deposit but the actual ceremony will be confirmed at the discretion of the priest or deacon who is preparing the couple.)

2. **What times and days do weddings take place at Holy Family?**

Weddings at Holy Family take place at 1 p.m. and 6 p.m. on Saturday evenings and may also be scheduled for 6 p.m. on Friday evenings. Your rehearsal date will be reserved after the plans have been discussed with the priest or deacon who is officiating.

3. **How much does it cost to have our wedding at Holy Family Church?**

The fee for weddings is \$750.00. A deposit of \$200.00 must be made to secure your rehearsal and wedding dates.

4. **What about music?**

Holy Family Parish currently does not have a full-time musician on staff however, our Pastoral Musician Coordinator will provide you with names of musicians who play on a regular basis at Holy Family and will assure that the music for your wedding is appropriate, tasteful and beautiful.

You may contract independent musicians for your wedding if you wish, however, they must be experienced in the Catholic liturgy and meet with the Pastoral Musician Coordinator at least 2 months prior to the wedding date.

5. **When are fees due for our wedding and where do we pay?**

Checks are to be made payable to Holy Family Parish with 'wedding' in the subject line. Checks can be mailed to the Parish Center at 3006 W. 8th Street, Cincinnati, OH 45205 or dropped off during regular business hours (Mondays, Wednesday through Friday between 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.). Three payments of \$250.00 are due at the following times: Upon reserving the church, upon receipt of 2nd invoice, and two weeks prior to the wedding.

6. **Flowers**

Holy Family Church is decorated seasonally throughout the liturgical year. Tasteful

arrangements in the sanctuary are permitted if they are in keeping with the seasonal arrangements already in the church. We are happy to use the floral arrangements in church for the remainder of the weekend.

7. Aisle Decorations

Anything that obstructs the aisles, such as candles, and plant stands, is not permitted. Floral arrangements may be carefully attached to the pews, if desired, but must be done so with great care to avoid permanent damage to the wood. Flower petals may not be dropped during the bridal procession, since this may present a 'slipping hazard' or stain the tile floor. Bridal runners are not permitted.

Please designate a friend or family member to be responsible for the cleanup of all decorations. It is the responsibility of the couple to see that all decorations, programs, etc. are removed from church after the ceremony. The sanctuary should be returned to the way in which it was found.

8. Photography

To maintain the dignity of the wedding ceremony, photographs and videos of the wedding ceremony are to be taken from the rear or side aisles of the church or in the organ loft. Photographers are not allowed in the sanctuary during the ceremony. Group shots may be taken in the sanctuary following the ceremony. You are welcome to stay in church for your photo session for up to 45 minutes following the ceremony.

9. Wedding Coordinators

Our team of experienced wedding coordinators will be present to assist you during the rehearsal and before, during, and after your ceremony. You will be contacted by them as your wedding date approaches to discuss the details of your ceremony and to offer any support or assistance you, your family members, or your bridal party may need on this special occasion.

10. Marriage License

It is imperative that you bring the marriage license to the rehearsal and give it to the presider who will be officiating at the wedding. The wedding cannot take place without the marriage license.

Other Things to Consider

- Holy Family can accommodate nearly 700 people. It is not air-conditioned.
- San Antonio is air-conditioned and can accommodate nearly 200 people.

- We ask that you do not use a bridal runner, rose petals, rice, birdseed, or confetti on church grounds.
- Parking is available in the lot and on surrounding streets.
- Holy Family Church is accessible for the handicapped.
- The church is available for decoration no sooner than one hour prior to the time of the ceremony.