

The parish family of Queen of Peace in North Arlington congratulates you as you prepare for your wedding.

We are presenting this pamphlet to you with hope that it will answer some fundamental questions about your wedding preparation in our church.

## General Preparations

Your spiritual development as a couple is the most important aspect of your marriage preparation. As you enter the church, come before the altar and exchange your vows, you will receive a new sacramental identity which will be centered on a relationship built on faith in God and faith in each other.

Marriage is a sacrament, which lasts until death. We are here to help you to prepare for this profound experience of God's love that will be showered upon you on your wedding day and every day of your married life. Because sacraments are essential to the life of the church, adequate marriage preparation is necessary to the Reception of the Sacrament of Matrimony.

In the weeks and months ahead as you plan for the reception of the Sacrament of Matrimony we suggest that you spend some time each day in prayer, reading of the Bible, spiritual reading and in works of mercy. Often prayers in the days ahead, both alone and together, will certainly deepen your personal relationship and your relationship with God.

Pre-Cana Program or Engaged Encounter Program are a part of a marriage instruction required in the Archdiocese of Newark. The priest who will make arrangements for your wedding will provide you with information about these programs.

We require that all couples preparing to be married in the church attend Mass each Sunday. Your presence is important not only for one another but also for this parish community.

We recommend that you make frequent use of the Sacrament of Penance, particularly prior to your wedding. This sacrament affords you the opportunity to experience the forgiveness and love of the Lord.

## The Time of Weddings

The time for a wedding on Friday must be arranged by a priest based on particular circumstances and on other activities scheduled in our church on Friday.

Weddings on Saturday take place at 2 PM and 3:30 PM.

Weddings on Sunday take place at 2 PM, 3 PM and 4 PM. There are NO wedding nuptial masses allowed on Sunday.

## Documents from the Church

Persons not baptized in Queen of Peace Church must contact the church of their baptism to receive a copy of their baptismal certificate. This must be a new and updated copy dated within eight months of the wedding. This copy is not returned and is kept in your marriage file in our church.

Persons who received a Decree of Annulment of their previous marriage from a Church Tribunal must present this document prior to making wedding arrangements.

## Documents from Civil Authority

The marriage license is obtained from the health department of the town of the bride. To obtain the license in the State of New Jersey you don't need results of blood tests anymore. You should apply for the marriage license 2-3 weeks prior to your wedding. This marriage license is valid for 30 days after it is issued. One witness (over 18 years old) and some form of ID for both bride and groom will be needed when you apply for the license.

The civil license (together with all church fees) must be brought to the rehearsal.

The pink copy of the marriage license, which you will receive from a priest after the wedding, is not a legal copy. Shortly after your wedding please contact the Health Department in North Arlington and obtain a certified copy of the license for all legal purposes.

## Music

Arrangements for music should be made with Anthony Tabish, Director of Music. A thorough and complete planning session will take place between the music director and bride and groom. The couple will select music which reflects the dignified worship of God. Secular music is not allowed.

The couple should contact our Music Director shortly after their first meeting with a priest (no less than 6 months prior to their wedding.) He can be reached at his home at 973-445-5515, or his office at 201-997-0700 ext.35.

## Rehearsal

Rehearsals are scheduled by a priest who will celebrate your wedding at a time that is mutually agreeable. Because there may be a number of rehearsals scheduled on any given evening, you are asked to have your wedding party in the church at the scheduled time, otherwise your rehearsal may be postponed until the other scheduled rehearsals are completed.

On the evening of the rehearsal the following must be presented to the priest or deacon.

a/ the marriage license

b/ the church fee of \$500

c/ the music director's fee of \$400

d/ a small gift for 2 altar servers (usually \$10 each)

## Photographs and Video

In choosing photographers and videographers please know that we require that they must not distract those who attend the ceremony, or the bride and groom. We do not allow pictures or videos to be taken from within the sanctuary (the altar area) and only those hired by a couple are permitted to move about during the service.

Floodlights are not permitted during the service.

Due to the volume of weddings in our church, picture taking in the church or on the church grounds after the wedding is prohibited. Please inform your photographer and videographer about these restrictions.

## Church Decorations

The couple makes arrangements for all floral decorations. All deliveries are to be made at least one-half hour before the start of the service. Please inform your florist that if pew decorations are used, they can not be taped or tacked to the pew. Florists should use rubber bands. The use of runners in the church are not permitted.. It is customary to leave flowers in the church after the wedding for the decoration of the church during the weekend.

## Limousine Service

Please inform your limousine service that the wedding procession will begin at the Church Place entrance of the church and the wedding recession will end at the main entrance of the church on Ridge Road.

Alcoholic beverages of any kind are prohibited on the church grounds before, during and after all rehearsals and weddings.

## Unity Candle

This popular practice, although never formally approved by the church, has been fairly common. Because it has never been fully integrated into the Catholic wedding liturgy, we discourage couples from using this practice at their wedding service.

## Rice - Birdseed – Confetti – Rose Petals

To keep the church aisles and steps clean and safe for all who come to Queen of Peace, and to avoid any question of liability to you or your guests, you are requested to inform those who attend your wedding that throwing rice, birdseed, confetti or rose petals is prohibited inside or outside of the church.

## Always on Time

All people involved in a wedding rehearsal must be in the church 10 minutes prior to the scheduled time. On the day of the wedding the full bridal party must be in the church 15 minutes before the time the wedding is scheduled to begin.

*We, the priests, deacons and staff of  
Queen of Peace Parish  
will do everything to make your  
wedding day service a reverent, dignified  
and memorable occasion.*

With Prayers and Best Wishes:

*Pastor*  
Father Mike Donovan

*Pastor Emeritus*  
Rev. Msgr. Thomas G. Madden

*Associate*  
Rev. Scott F. Attanasio

*Deacons*  
William R. Benedetto  
William H. Myers

## MASS SCHEDULE

Sunday Mass: 5:30 PM (Saturday)  
7:30, 9:00, 10:30 AM, 12 Noon, and  
5:30 PM Spanish

Weekdays: 7:30 and 9 AM and 5:30 PM  
(NO 5:30 PM Mass during July & August)

## SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Saturdays starting at 4:45 PM before the  
5:30 PM Mass.  
Upon request at any time.

Directions: [www.qpcna.org](http://www.qpcna.org)

**QUEEN OF PEACE CHURCH**  
**10 Franklin Place**  
**North Arlington, NJ 07031**  
**Tel. 201-997-0700**  
**Fax: 201-997-6214**  
**EMAIL: [qpcna.org](mailto:qpcna.org)**



**PARISH POLICY  
ON CELEBRATING  
THE SACRAMENT  
OF MARRIAGE**

*Revised 1/25/18*