

Wedding Ceremony

Date:

Time:

Priest:

Bride:

Contact info:

Groom:

Contact info:

Rehearsal date and time:

Reserved seats / pews - how many, which side

Kneelers / chairs for bride and groom -

Flowers placed where / florist used and delivery time:

Pew decorations:

Programs and guest book (if used) handed out by -

Altar servers (usually 2) and Eucharistic ministers -

Ushers will start escorting guests 30 minutes before wedding -

Grandmothers (along with grandfathers) escorted 10 minutes before -

groom's escorted by -

bride's escorted by -

Grandfathers -

Mother of groom (along with father) escorted by -

Father -

Mother of bride escorted by -

Order of procession (can be changed as needed) - Father

Groom

Bestman

The order and how the groomsmen and bridesmaids enter (separately, together) is up to the bride and groom.

Groomsmen / Ushers -

Bridesmaids -

Maid /Matron of Honor -

Flower girl (s) / Ring Bearer -

Bride escorted by -

Greeting and Opening Prayer

First Reading -

Responsorial Psalm

Second Reading -

Alleluia

Gospel

Homily

Rite of Marriage (exchange vows, blessing of rings)

Prayers of the Faithful

Presentation of Gifts (2 persons) -

Prayer over the Gifts

Preface

The Lord's Prayer

Nuptial Blessing

Sign of Peace

Communion

Prayer after Communion

Final Blessing

Introduction of Couple

Recessional - Bridal party (in reverse order) Mothers escorted by spouse Grandmothers escorted by usher if needed

Ushers stand at end of pews to direct guests

Points to cover at rehearsal:

Obtain marriage license and programs at this time.

Grandmothers, mothers and entire wedding party will make a reverential bow at the end of the first pew.

Grandmothers seated first followed by mothers then the bridal party. (See list above)

Bride and escort process in, hug , groom comes forward and escort may address the groom or shake hands. Bride and groom move forward for the ceremony to begin.

Father will direct the wedding party when they are to sit for the reading of scripture. After the homily, Father will have the bride and groom come forward, the maid of honor and best man also come forward. After the Statement of Intention, the bride gives her bouquet to the maid of honor. The bride and groom face each other and join hands. Rings are blessed, wedding vows are exchanged and Mass will continue with Prayers of the Faithful.

After the ceremony, as the bridal party comes out (same order as processing in only in reverse), ushers direct guests. Bridal party is directed to the cry room to wait for pictures as needed. The bride and groom go by themselves to the sacristy to sign the marriage license.

Guidelines for weddings at Our Lady of the Hills Catholic Church

Contact Parish Office at least 6 months prior to wedding.

Couples must attend an Engaged Encounter or Pre-Cana and set up meetings with Father of their choice. The couple will receive a copy of Together for Life (given out in class or by Father) which lists liturgical options. Classes can fill up quickly and may be held in various cities outside of Columbia so set all these dates as soon as possible.

Times for Weddings

Saturday - no later than 2:30 pm for Marriage Ceremony

no later than 2:00 pm for Nuptial Mass

At OLH, Reconciliation begins at 4 pm with parishioners arriving as early as 3:30 pm.

The first Saturday of each month may have a 9 am mass scheduled, check with Parish office.

Other day - arrangements can be requested

Weddings can be incorporated in weekend or weekday masses as well.

Rehearsal - typically the day before the wedding, check church calendar with parish office for availability.

Music, Soloist / Cantor

Lists with contact information available at the Parish office.

Choose Christian or classical music for instrumental, soloist or congregational participation but contemporary or secular music cannot be used. There are many beautiful selections for processions that can be used and the musicians can help in the selection. Traditional wedding entrance and recessional selections are acceptable.

Fees for musicians, soloists and cantors are discussed separately with the bride and groom and the musicians.

Wedding fees and suggested stipends

Use of the church is no charge to parishioners, others may choose to give a donation to the church.

Wedding coordinator - 125

Priest / Deacon - 100 or more (suggested)

Altar servers - 20 or more (suggested)

Programs and Guest book

Can be handed out by designated person(s) in the narthex and guests can be directed to sign a guest book.

Flowers, Pews, Runners

Arrangements in the sanctuary can be placed on the wall. Another arrangement in

memory of a loved one can be placed by the ambo or crucifix. They remain in the church for weekend masses. Simple pew decorations can be used, nothing with candles and are removed immediately following the ceremony. Wedding runners are not allowed, they can cause someone to trip or fall.

Flower girls can use artificial or real flowers but they must be removed immediately following the ceremony by a designated person.

A unity candle can be used, review with the Priest regarding placement. Evening service with candelabras are acceptable as long as the candles are dripless or battery operated.

Brides, Bridesmaids

May choose to dress at the church, the nursery can be used as a dressing room. If used, all personal belongings have to be removed immediately after the wedding, the room cleaned up and everything put back as you found it.

Groom, Groomsmen and Ushers

Can choose to dress at the church in the sacristy. Everything has to be cleaned up and everything back in place as they found it immediately following the wedding.

Photography, Videography

Pictures taken before the wedding are acceptable but the wedding must start on time so allow time to get ready and have pictures taken. Wedding guests start arriving 30 - 45 minutes before the wedding, so be finished by then.

Please tell the photographer, as well as family and friends that NO flash pictures can be taken during the ceremony. Also, they are not to be walking around during the ceremony. Photographers, etc. can be in the center aisle only when the wedding party is entering or exiting the ceremony. They can not go beyond the side aisle 1st row of pews. No photographer, etc. in the altar area.

Other

Marriage license is brought to the rehearsal by the bride and groom, given to the wedding coordinator and is signed immediately after the wedding ceremony in the sacristy.

Wedding attire is to be tasteful and not nightclub attire.

No alcoholic beverages are allowed on church grounds prior to the wedding.

Drones are not permitted at any time.

Receiving lines, bubbles, birdseed, etc. should be done at the reception not at the Church.