



**OUR LADY OF THE
BLESSED SACRAMENT**
PARISH

Wedding Planning & Marriage Preparation



Dear Bride and Groom,

Congratulations on your engagement! We are delighted to share in your wedding celebration. Weddings are special and joyful times for brides and grooms, for their families and friends and for the parish community as well. Indeed, so important is marriage in Christian life that it is called a sacrament. We celebrate this sacrament as a community. We gather as brothers and sisters in faith to celebrate the love of God in our lives with song, prayerful gestures and silence.

Many people will refer to your wedding as “your day.” In many respects they are correct in doing so. On that day you will stand before the Faith Community and pledge your lifelong commitment to love one another as husband and wife. You will recall this day as long as you live. In the years to come, your anniversary will be a significant date on the calendar. The parish staff and the entire faith community of Our Lady of the Blessed Sacrament hope to do everything possible to make your wedding day a beautiful experience. This booklet provides guidelines to assure the dignity and respect of such an important time.

Those of us who will be involved with you in your preparation here at Our Lady of the Blessed Sacrament look forward to walking with you through this special time in your lives.



Wedding Policy

Our Lady of the Blessed Sacrament welcomes your wedding celebration, one of our priests or deacons will be walking through your wedding arrangements with you. For those who are outside of the parish boundaries, you will be required to obtain a letter of permission from your home parish. All proposed dates will be finalized when the couple meets with the Priest or Deacon of Our Lady of the Blessed Sacrament.

Setting the Date

Couples should contact the Parish Office where our staff will gather information needed and your proposed date to begin your wedding journey. Once you meet with the Priest or Deacon to discuss your marriage, complete the marriage preparation program and the necessary documents needed, your date will be confirmed.

Freedom to Marry

If one of you has been married before, even in a simple court ceremony, you must discuss this with a priest or deacon on staff to be sure you are both free to be married in the Church.

If your fiancé is not a Catholic and was married before, his or her marriage may be valid in the eyes of the Church. In this case, a Church annulment would have to be obtained. We would guide you in this process. To be sure you can proceed, the previous marriage of either party must be discussed before any wedding date can be set.

Wedding Schedules

The church is used by the faith community and may be being used for other functions, you can discuss the time that is needed before and after your wedding with the Wedding Minister.

Friday: 4:00 pm at both Queen of the Rosary and St. Julian Eymard Churches.

Saturday: 2:00 at both Queen of the Rosary and St. Julian Eymard Churches.

Sunday: Wedding Masses may be celebrated by a visiting priest.

Documents Required

Certain records or documents are required by the Church before a marriage can occur, especially the following:

Baptismal Certificate

Each Catholic party must submit a newly issued baptismal certificate (within six months prior to the date of marriage) from the church where you were baptized. If you are not a Roman Catholic, a copy of your original baptismal certificate or a letter attesting to baptism from your church of baptism will be accepted. These certificates are easily obtained by writing or phoning the Church in which the baptism took place.

Confirmation Certificates

A confirmation certificate is also required if you are a confirmed Catholic.

Marriage License

Cook County Clerk's Office

www.cookcountyclerk.gov/vital-records

A Cook County marriage License is required. Currently the fee is \$60.00. Please go to the Cook County Clerk's website for further information and locations. The couple must both be present when applying for the license. The Marriage License should be brought to the rehearsal.

Preuptial Questionnaire

The couples initial meeting with the priest or deacon will require a statement of intent by both the bride and the groom. This statement will be completed by the priest or deacon.

Affidavits

Two different affidavits for each of you are required. These may be completed by parents or close relatives. They should contact the priest or deacon from Our Lady of the Blessed Sacrament to make an appointment to complete and sign the affidavits.

Dispensations

In marriages between a Catholic and a non-Catholic, a Church dispensation must be granted. When the non-Catholic party is a baptized Christian and has a copy of his/her baptismal certificate, the parish priest can grant the dispensation. In cases where the non-Catholic does not have a record of baptism, the Chancery Office of the Archdiocese of Chicago must grant the dispensation.

If a marriage ceremony (between a Catholic and non-Catholic), is to take place at a non-Catholic church, a dispensation for the Catholic must be obtained by the priest or deacon from the Chancery Office of the Archdiocese of Chicago well in advance of the wedding date because the appropriate forms must be submitted.

Marriage Preparation

Archdiocesan regulations require all engaged couples to participate in a marriage preparation program. As help in preparing for your marriage, Our Lady of the Blessed Sacrament offers you to participate in the Archdiocese Marriage Prep Program at:

<https://pvm.archchicago.org/lifelong-formation/marriage-and-family-ministries/getting-married>

There will be a certificate upon completion which must be turned in to the parish office.

All Couples preparing for marriage at Our Lady of the Blessed Sacrament Parish are asked to take the Catholic Couple Check-up. The consulting priest or deacon will discuss these arrangements with you. The priest or deacon arranging your marriage will administer and review with you the Catholic Couple Checkup which will help surface issues in your lives that may need further attention or discussion.

The Catholic Couple Checkup can be found at couplecheckup.com. There will be a certificate upon completion which must be turned into the parish office. Please have the results emailed to the Parish Office.



Wedding Coordination

Wedding Minister

A Wedding Minister will be assigned to assist you and the bridal party as well as the priest or deacon presiding at the rehearsal and on your Wedding Day. You can discuss details of the wedding ceremony with your Wedding Minister.

Altar Servers

The parish may schedule up to two altar servers for weddings to assist the priest or deacon; however, with notice, friends or relatives of the bride or groom may be altar servers. It is customary to give the altar servers a gratuity at your discretion. If you choose to do so then please place in two marked envelopes indicating "Altar Server" and give them to the Wedding Minister at rehearsal. They will be passed on to the altar server on the day of the wedding.

The Celebration

In Catholic theology, the bride and groom minister the sacrament of marriage to one another. A priest or deacon and at least two witnesses are also required to be present. Ordinarily, one of the priests or deacons of the Parish will preside at weddings celebrated at Our Lady of the Blessed Sacrament.

Visiting Clergy

A priest or deacon who is a family member or friend is always welcome to celebrate the marriage. Ministers or priest of other faith traditions are welcome to witness interfaith marriages. The consulting priest or deacon will discuss these arrangements with you. A Priest that is outside of the Chicago Archdiocese will need to send a letter of good standing to Canonical Affairs at the Archdiocese of Chicago. Changes to Our Lady of the Blessed Sacrament norms must be cleared in advance with one of the priests or deacons.

Archdiocese of Chicago
Canonical Affairs
835 North Rush Street
Chicago, IL 60611-2030

Guidelines

Photographers

We welcome photographers for weddings and other special events at the church. In respect for the sacred nature of the sacraments and the church, we require that all photographers observe the following procedures:

Before the event, all photographers must check with staff, clergy, Wedding Minister or other church personnel for procedures to be followed. No special backdrops are allowed in the church or the narthex area. If a special backdrop is desired, it must be set up in a meeting room if such room is available. Reservation of that room must be made before the event. A donation is required from the photographer before set up to cover the work of the maintenance staff that is needed because of the use of this room.

Photographers are welcome to take pictures in the church or narthex prior to the scheduled ceremony and after the ceremony. This time should be discussed with the Wedding Minister

Wedding photographers are welcome to take pictures from the center of the church in front for the opening procession. After that, all pictures should be taken from outside the center section of the pews or from the center aisle at least eight pews from the front. At no time are any photographers allowed on the altar platform. Flash photography is NOT allowed, nor is continuously shining light(s), during a church ceremony.

Photographers are not allowed to stand on any pew or any other part of furnishings of the church. Photographers may NOT bring any kind of ladders or any other equipment to take a picture from above the subjects in the photo.



Florist

The church is always decorated according to the liturgical season of the year. These decorations, as well as furniture in the sanctuary, remain in tact both during and after the wedding. Cut floral arrangements and plants are acceptable for use at a wedding. Nothing may be placed on the Altar or arranged in a manner that inhibits the movement of the priest, deacon or bridal party. If you wish to have a canopy or a trellis, it is placed at the beginning of the main aisle in the back of the church. The florist may come and set up before the wedding is to begin and should be discussed with the Wedding Minister.

Pew Bows

Please inform your florist that no taping or wiring of the pew bows or flowers is allowed. Because of the shape of pews, plastic clips or rubber bands should be attached to each bow to hold them in place.

Aisle Runner

The use of an aisle runner is optional. Please choose an aisle runner at least 100 feet in length. Aisle runners must be picked up immediately following the wedding by the wedding party.

Candles

Fire codes prohibit the use of candles down the aisles of the church. Likewise candles may not be attached to the pews or placed in any flower arrangement. Flameless may be used if needed.

Flower Girl and Ring Bearer

Children acting as flower girls and ring bearers should be of appropriate age to participate in the wedding liturgy. The flower girl may carry a bouquet of flowers, however, dropping of flower petals of any kind is not permitted. We recommend that the ring bearer's pillow not have the actual wedding bands tied on with ribbons, as they may fall off and become lost or tied so tightly that they are difficult to remove.

Music

Music, or sung prayer, is an important part of liturgy, including the wedding liturgy.

Music for your wedding day is arranged through the Parish Music Director. The wedding couple must contact the Music Director to discuss fees, availability and music selections. After you have met with our priest or deacon, please contact the Music Director [(847) 979-0901 x1006 or MrVan@olbsegv.org] and you will be guided through the steps of selecting music for your wedding.

Wedding music follows liturgical guidelines. Secular texts are not sung at liturgies, including wedding liturgies. We look forward to working with you in preparing your special day.

Wedding Rehearsals

Rehearsal times for the wedding should be scheduled through the parish office.

Rehearsals are not the time for music rehearsal, the music sound systems, organ and piano will not be on during rehearsal times. If an outside musician needs practice time, please coordinate times with the parish office.

Safety Concerns and Courtesy

Our of concern for the safety of all, and courtesy for other liturgies scheduled after your wedding, NO RICE, CONFETTI, BIRDSEED (FOR THE HEALTH OF THE BIRDS) or CANDY is allowed to be thrown inside or outside of the church building. Please do not bring balloons into the church building. Alcohol is Prohibited anywhere on church premises inside or outside during the rehearsal or at the wedding ceremony.

Other

The bride and groom are responsible for all ancillary materials used in the ceremony, including but not limited to flowers, floor runners, bows, pillows. These items are not available from nor the responsibility of the church.

Donation

Our Lady of the Blessed Sacrament takes great care in preparing couples for marriage. We do not have fees for sacraments, however we do ask that you search your heart and pray to freely make a donation to the Parish.







Wedding Check List

- Complete the Archdiocese Marriage Preparation Program
- Complete the Catholic Couple Check-up
- Obtain Baptismal and Confirmation Certificates
- Obtain Marriage License and bring to Parish Office
- Two Affidavits completed for each of you at the Parish Office
- Confirm Musician with collaboration of the Parish Music Director
- Set Rehearsal date and time with Parish Office
- Make all appointments necessary to meet with Priest or Deacon, Music Director, Wedding Minister, etc:



OUR LADY OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT PARISH

 OLBSEGV.org  (847) 979-0901  info@olbsegv.org  /OLBSEGV

Fr. Arthur Bautista, Pastor
(847) 979-0901 X1013
arbautista@archchicago.org

Fr. Paul Àdajà, Assoc. Pastor
(847) 979-0901 X1009
padaja@archchicago.org

Mr. Jerrold Szostak, Deacon
(847) 979-0901 X1008
jszostak@archchicago.org

Mr. Paul VanLysebettens, Music Director
(847) 979-0901 X1006
pvanlysebettens@archchicago.org

Worship Sites

Queen of the Rosary
750 W. Elk Grove Blvd.
Elk Grove Village, IL 60007

St. Julian Eymard
601 Biesterfield Road
Elk Grove Village, IL 60007

School

Queen of the Rosary School
690 Elk Grove Blvd.
Elk Grove Village, IL 60007
QRSchool.org