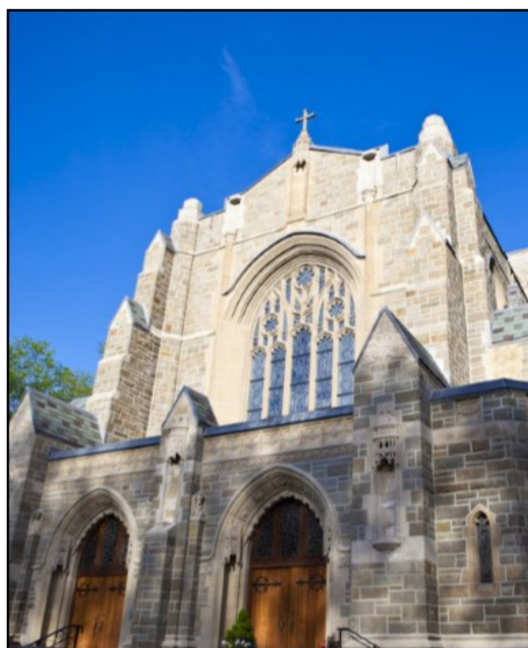


# **Preparing for your Wedding**

## *Parish Marriage Procedures*



### **CHURCH OF THE RESURRECTION**

910 BOSTON POST ROAD

RYE, NEW YORK 10580

TEL: 914-967-0142

FAX: 914-925-2751

[www.resrye.com](http://www.resrye.com)

## **Congratulations on your engagement!**

The priests and staff of Resurrection Parish are happy to help you arrange and prepare for your wedding.

Your marriage is not only a solemn contract, it is a covenant, reflecting the loving union of Christ and His Church (Eph. 5:22-23). It is a vocation from God, to which you commit yourselves and for which you ask His help by celebrating the Sacrament of Matrimony.

Your attendance at church on Sunday will give witness to others of your faith in God and your desire to strengthen your bond and commitment with each other. **Please continue** the active practice of your faith and **go to Mass regularly**.

If you will be settling in our parish, we look forward to getting to know you better and we trust that you will find support and friendship with other young Catholic couples in our parish.

This booklet has been prepared to help you understand better the requirements and preparations for the celebration of Marriage in our church. You want your wedding celebration to be beautiful and also an expression of your love for one another. Everyone here at Resurrection wants to help you prepare for that beautiful expression of your love in the liturgical celebration of the Sacrament of Marriage.

May God Bless You!

Rev. Msgr. Donald M. Dwyer  
Pastor

## **Church Requirements**

There are general guidelines and regulations concerning marriage which comes to us from The Archdiocese of NY. These must be observed by ALL Catholic Churches. Besides these, each parish has its own pastoral approach to the celebration of the Sacrament of Marriage. The following is the pastoral and liturgical approach of Resurrection parish.

1. If either of you has ever been married before, even by a judge tell the priest or deacon at once. This could be an impediment to your marrying in the Church. We need at least six months advance notice if there is an obstacle that needs addressing.
2. Please try to arrange the date and time of your wedding as far in advance as possible. We are limited by the schedule of our regular Masses. Since the Church's General Instruction does not allow Wedding Masses on the Sunday's of Advent, Lent, and certain Solemnities, our policy is not to book a nuptial Mass on that day.

**Weddings are celebrated in our parish on:**

**Main Church:**           *Fridays 4:00pm*  
                                  *Saturdays 11:00am 1:00pm and 3:00 pm*  
                                  *Sundays 3:00 pm*

3. If one of you is not Catholic and you would like a Protestant Minister or Rabbi to take part in the Wedding Ceremony, the Minister will be welcome to read a reading from the Bible and give a blessing to the couple. If, in view of exceptional circumstances, you want your marriage to be witnessed by a non-Catholic Minister or a minister from another house of worship, ask the priest. When dispensation is granted for a non-Catholic minister or rabbi to be the principal witness for a wedding, the ceremony should take place in the house of worship pertaining to that minister or rabbi.
4. Most couples getting married at Resurrection celebrate the wedding at a Wedding Ceremony lasting approx. 35-40 minutes. Couples who are practicing Catholics, parishioners, attend Mass weekly and are not living together may request a Nuptial Mass. A Nuptial Mass takes approx. 40 – 45 minutes.

### **Required Documents**

- A. **New baptismal certificates, dated within nine months before the wedding.** It should not be necessary to go in person to the church where you were baptized. Simply write the church requesting the form with your date of birth, approximate date of Baptism. Enclose a self addressed stamped envelope and a small donation.
- B. A record of your first Communion and Confirmation. This usually comes with your baptismal certificate. If you haven't been confirmed we encourage you to receive the Sacrament if there is time and you are ready for it. Please call the Rectory for information about receiving the Sacraments of Baptism and Communion or Confirmation. Our RCIA program for adults runs from October thru Easter every year.
- C. If you live in another parish, you must get a letter from that parish stating that, as far as they know, you are free to marry.
- D. If you are under 21, we would like a notarized letter from your parents giving their permission for you to be married.
- E. By tradition, a marriage, should be celebrated in the parish church of the bride or groom. To be married at Resurrection, one of you must have some kind of affiliation to the parish. If neither of you lives here, we require written permission from the pastor of at least one of you.
- F. "PRE-CANA"- The church requires that you attend classes of instruction and discussion before your wedding. We will give you a schedule of the places and times at which the programs are offered. Upon completing the instructions, you will get a certificate of attendance which you will return to us. A Pre-Cana class is usually held here at Resurrection in March or April each year.
- G. You will then need to make an appointment with a priest or deacon to go thru the questionnaire (PMI) answered by everyone preparing for marriage. It asks for basic information about your background and your understanding of marriage.

**Please note: Only a parish priest may schedule your wedding in our liturgical book or make any changes to that schedule. The lay staff and secretaries may not schedule weddings in the book.**

**Civil Marriage License:** A Marriage License can be obtained at any Town Clerk's Office in New York State. We urge you to get this about a month before the wedding. It is valid for 60 days after it is issued. Both of you must be present to apply for a license. Without the license we cannot solemnize your wedding.

**Registration Fee:** There is a \$250.00 non-refundable registration fee which is required after booking a wedding with a Priest. This fee reserves the date and the time. **Please send a check within one month of booking**

**To:** Church of the Resurrection  
Wedding Registration  
910 Boston Post Road  
Rye, New York 10580

Please include the date of Marriage on Check.

**Church Wedding Fee:** The wedding fee of \$1250.00 is due at the time of your rehearsal. This fee covers the cost of the organist, singer, altar servers and a donation to the Church. Please make checks out to ***Church of the Resurrection***. It is customary to offer the Altar Servers and Sacristan a modest gratuity (usually \$25.00) each.

**Visiting Priest:** Couples are welcome to invite a priest who is a family friend to celebrate their ceremony. Please inform us ahead of time. The Priest should write the pastor for proper permission. Also, the Church Wedding fee does not include an offering to the visiting priest. It is customary to offer the priest that you are inviting a gift in the neighborhood of \$250.00 to \$300.00

**Rehearsal:** You will schedule this with the priest or deacon. It will take place in the Church and include the opportunity to pray and go to confession. Although many couples schedule their rehearsal for the night before their wedding, there are advantages for holding it sooner. The priest conducting the rehearsal is not necessarily the priest who will conduct your ceremony. **You must bring to the rehearsal your Marriage license, the church wedding fee, and the selection sheet of your readings, prayers and blessings from the book you received at Pre-Cana.**

*\* Please note that Musicians are not part of the wedding rehearsal and will not be in attendance.*

**Participation of**

**Relatives And friends:** If you have a relative or a friend who is a priest and you would like him to be the celebrant, he will be welcome; but let us know three months in advance so we can obtain all the necessary authorization. All paper work, Pre-Cana arrangements, rehearsal, etc., will be taken care of by the priest or deacon of Resurrection. This avoids any confusion in the marriage preparation process. Altar servers, lectors, Eucharistic Ministers can also be given a role in your wedding. Let us know about them.

**Punctuality: Please be on time for the rehearsal and the wedding itself!** It is most likely that the priest or deacon conducting the marriage will most likely have other duties on the same day immediately following your ceremony. Lateness is not fashionable, causes serious inconvenience and is rude. Please be on time! Your scheduled allotted time to complete the service is one hour. You must also take into consideration that the musicians may also have another wedding booked after your wedding and may need to travel to another church. They may have to leave after their contracted hour is up.

PLEASE NOTE: Late starts to the wedding liturgy will result in a significant shortening of or change to your program. Excessive Lateness may result in cancellation.

**Reverence:** Remember that the Church is the House of the Lord and The Blessed Sacrament is present in the Tabernacle.  
**During the rehearsal and the wedding, proper and reverent behavior is expected at all times**

**PLEASE NOTE THE FOLLOWING GUIDELINES**

- **Alcohol is strictly forbidden on the church grounds. This includes in limousines before and after the ceremony.**
- **Gum chewing is disrespectful ESPECIALLY if you will be receiving communion.**
- **Loud and obsessive talking is discouraged.**

The throwing of rice, bird seed and confetti is NOT ALLOWED

**Photographers:** *Pictures are a wonderful keepsake! However, the activity of even the most professional photographer and video person may prove a distraction and create a carnival atmosphere instead of a reverent one.*

- ***Tripods are not permitted in the Church***
- ***Photographers must stay out of the sanctuary.***
- ***Flood lights are NOT permitted.***
- ***Photographers may not stop, delay or block the processional or recessional.***

PHOTOGRAPHERS AND VIDEOGRAPHERS SHOULD CONSULT WITH THE CELEBRANT BEFORE THE WEDDING BEGINS.

**Pictures in the church may taken for 15 MINUTES after the wedding. Depending on the start time and the length of the wedding that may end up being only 5 or 10 minutes. If you would like pictures in the church after, be sure that we START ON TIME.**

**When the priest, music director, or sacristan say it's time to wrap up, you should begin wrapping up immediately.**

**FLOWERS:** Please inform your florist that adhesive tape, tacks or glue should NOT be used to affix decorations to the pews. The only acceptable procedure to affix decorations to the pews are with elastic bands. **Runners** are allowed but frowned upon. The aisle is 100 feet long

## **Wedding/Event Coordinators**

A wedding planner can be a big help when planning large and multifaceted even such as a wedding. However, a Catholic wedding is not just an event, it is a Religious Sacrament. Often times wedding planners do not see the importance or reverence of this sacred moment and view the whole celebration as a party or social event. Your hired wedding planner may help and assist in the procession portion of the wedding however, that will be the extent of their involvement here at the church.

The priest/deacon/music director will run the wedding rehearsal NOT the wedding planner or their staff. It is necessary that the wedding planner comply with all the of the parish wedding procedures and the directives of the priest/deacon/music director. The wedding planners main objective is to be to getting the procession to start on time. Delaying the start of the procession will not be tolerated.

## **Your Wedding Streaming LIVE online**

Unfortunately, not all of your guests will be able come to your wedding ceremony. Perhaps they live far away or they may be unable to take off from work to travel here to Rye. Maybe they are elderly or sick and homebound.

Here at Resurrection we are able to stream our Masses live via the Internet. If your family or friends wish to view your wedding live online please let us know. You may sample this service by going to the parish website at [www.resrye.com](http://www.resrye.com) and clicking on “LIVE STREAMING MASS” on the top right hand side of the menu bar. All of our weekend masses can be viewed online. Saturday at 5:00pm and Sunday mornings at 8:45am, 10:00am, 11:15am and 12:30pm. For more information regarding this service contact our Music Director. His contact info is on page 10 of this booklet. *The suggested donation for live streaming is \$100 and is due at the rehearsal.*



## *Liturgical Music*

The Choice of Music in a wedding celebration is very important. It is encouraging to see more and more couples caring what kind of music will be used for their wedding. All couples are **REQUIRED** to attend one of the Wedding Music Workshop here at Resurrection at which all aspects of your wedding will be explored.

The Parish Music Director/Organist will work with you to plan your wedding music. He works on a contract basis and is the only authorized organist to perform at Resurrection. Musicians from outside the parish may be employed in special circumstances **but only with the prior knowledge of, and in consultation with, the parish music director.**

Often requests are made for currently popular songs of questionable liturgical value. A reading of their lyrics will often reveal that they in no way refer to the sacred aspect of marriage. All music at a wedding should reflect the reverence and dignity befitting the Sacred Liturgy. A song which has no relationship to the liturgy has no place in the wedding celebration. Music from secular sources, Broadway, and popular love songs would be more effectively used outside the religious celebration. All requests for music at your wedding must be discussed with and approved by the Music Director and Celebrant.

The dates for the mandatory wedding planning workshop, and the links to sign up for the dates can be found on the Liturgy and Music Website by [clicking here](#). Topics discussed will include Appropriate Music for a Church Wedding, Guest Musicians, Instrumentalists, flowers, wedding planners, Photography, paperwork, to name a few. . You will also be able to hear music selections on the Resurrection Organ.

A Word about Programs: A template with the correct order of worship will be provided to you at the Wedding Workshop. It would also be an added benefit to email a copy to the Music Director BEFORE it goes to print to check it over.

Mr. Joseph Viserta– Director of Music  
Phone– 914-925-3520  
Email: [Jviserta@resmusic.org](mailto:Jviserta@resmusic.org)  
[www.resmusic.org](http://www.resmusic.org)

## ***What's Next?***

### ***Planning Time Line***

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- \_\_\_\_\_ 1. Pay the \$250.00 initial deposit as soon as you are notified your date has been approved.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 2. When you are notified that your wedding date has been approved. Fill out the wedding intake form at [www.resmusic.org](http://www.resmusic.org) under the wedding planning section. (Scroll to the bottom of the page).
- \_\_\_\_\_ 3. While you are at the wedding planning page on [www.resmusic.org](http://www.resmusic.org) sign up for the mandatory wedding planning workshop. The wedding workshop should be attended at least 4-5 months prior to your wedding date.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 4. Decide which family members or friends will take part in the liturgy of the church by reading the 1st or 2nd reading, the prayer of the faithful and the offertory procession if it is a Mass (6 months from date)
- \_\_\_\_\_ 5. Schedule your rehearsal with Julie in the rectory (4-5 months from date).
- \_\_\_\_\_ 6. Choose your wedding readings and songs. Resources can be found at [www.resmusic.org](http://www.resmusic.org) under the wedding planning section. (3 Months from date.)
- \_\_\_\_\_ 7. If you have a visiting priest coming be sure that they have received proper permission by writing to the Pastor (3 Months from date)
- \_\_\_\_\_ 8. Schedule a meeting with your celebrant to go over your selections that you have submitted to the Music Director and to fill out the PMI (2 months from your wedding date)
- \_\_\_\_\_ 9. Obtain your civil marriage license. It is only valid for 60 days so don't get it too early. Allow for two weeks processing time. (1 month from your wedding date).

*Revised July 2024*

