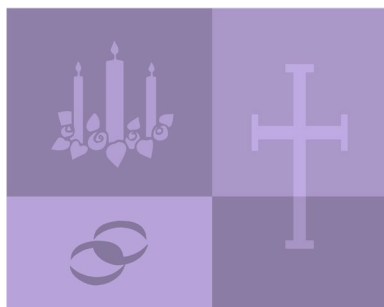


*Celebrating*  
*The Sacrament of*  
*Holy Matrimony*



*at*

*St. Giles Catholic Church*

*1045 Columbian Avenue*

*Oak Park, IL 60302*

*[weddings@stgilesparish.org](mailto:weddings@stgilesparish.org)*

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# Welcome!

## Days and Times for Wedding Liturgies

Fridays: An evening wedding may be scheduled to begin at any time from 4:00 pm or after.

Saturdays: **12:00 pm -or- 2:30 pm**

Weddings times are limited to this schedule. Please note that there are no weddings scheduled on Sundays.

<b>FEES</b>	Church Fee	\$1,275.00
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*\$500.00 deposit (\$250.00 non-refundable) toward the Church Fee is required to secure the reserved date and must be received within two weeks of scheduling the wedding or the reserved date will be forfeited. The deposit may be transferred to another date if the wedding is rescheduled.*

### *In addition to the Church Fee:*

Music Fees	\$200.00	Pianist
	\$150.00	Cantor

- The balance of ALL fees is due to the parish office **one month prior to your wedding date.**

### *Additional expenses, to be paid at the time of the wedding rehearsal:*

- A personal offering at your discretion for your Priest or Deacon presider and those members of other ministries serving for your wedding.

## Preparation Process Timeline

The first step is to speak with the Pastor or a Parish priest to schedule your wedding date. The deposit toward the church fee is due at the time the wedding is scheduled.

Ongoing	Attend Mass regularly.
6 months before the wedding	Attend Pre Cana Workshop ( <a href="https://pvm.archchicago.org/lifelong-formation/marriage/marriage-preparation-courses">https://pvm.archchicago.org/lifelong-formation/marriage/marriage-preparation-courses</a> ).
6 months before the wedding	Arrange meeting with the Priest or Deacon presider for sacramental preparation and completion of the Prenuptial Questionnaire.
6 months before the wedding	Complete FOCCUS Survey through Wedding Administrator.
6-3 months before the wedding (after the meeting with the Priest or Deacon presider)	Meet with the Wedding Liturgy Coordinator.
3 months before the wedding	Meet with the Music Director.
1 month before the wedding	<b><u>Pay all remaining fees.</u></b>
Before your wedding day	Sacrament of Reconciliation* <i>*You may wish to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation prior to your wedding. The Parish priests are available by appointment.</i>

## *Required Documents for your Wedding file*

You will begin compiling your wedding file at your first meeting with the Priest or Deacon who will be presiding at your wedding (six months prior to your wedding date).

- Pre-Nuptial Questionnaire (completed with the Priest or Deacon presider);
- Baptismal certificates (issued by the church where the sacrament was performed within six months of your wedding date (**photocopies of older originals will not be accepted**);
- Signed affidavits (if needed);
- Pre Cana completion record;
- Declaration of Nullity (if previously married);
- Cook County Marriage License.

Your wedding file must be completed at least two months prior to the wedding date.

If your presider is a visiting priest or deacon to St. Giles Church, they must mail your wedding file to arrive at the parish office no later than two months prior to your wedding date. Please ask them to mail the file to:

**St. Giles Church, 1025 Columbian Avenue, Oak Park, IL 60302.**

Any visiting priest or deacon from outside the Archdiocese of Chicago must also send a letter of good standing to the Chancery Office of the Archdiocese of Chicago six months prior to the wedding date. Please have a visiting priest or deacon submit the attached letter of intent to St. Giles as soon as is possible.

## Worship

Because your wedding is a sacred occasion, we ask that all church property be treated with respect, and that the Liturgy be treated with reverence by all involved in your special day.

Your Wedding Liturgy is an expression of faith in God and the sacramental union into which you will enter. We want to do all we can to assist you and your guests to experience the presence of God at your wedding.

We ask that the Bride and Groom set the tone and spirit for the Wedding Liturgy.

- Proper church etiquette is to prevail at all times.
- Alcoholic beverages of any kind are inappropriate for your ceremony, and no food or other beverages are allowed in the church building.
- Smoking is not allowed in the church, the vestibules or outside the front of the church building.

## Days and Times for Rehearsals

The day and time for your rehearsal must be scheduled with the Wedding Liturgy Coordinator (not with the Priest or Deacon presider) at least six months prior to your wedding date. All couples must schedule a rehearsal in order to ensure that everyone participating in your Wedding Liturgy understands their role. Please contact Wedding Liturgy Coordinator Chris Malagoli at 708-912-4378 to schedule your rehearsal day and time.

- Rehearsals will not be held on holidays.
- All bridal attendants, family members and the reader should be present at the rehearsal.
- Wedding rehearsals are one hour long; we ask that you **please be on time, as there may be another rehearsal scheduled after your rehearsal time.**
- Please note that St. Giles Church will be available for two hours for your Wedding Liturgy: 30 minutes before your wedding for set-up, and 30 minutes after for limited photographs and the restoration of the worship space. Any delays of the Wedding Liturgy due to the late arrival of the wedding party will reduce or eliminate time allowed for post-wedding photography.

## *Liturgy Plan*

Most Catholics who marry do so in the context of the Mass. A Mass includes the Sacrament of the Eucharist (Communion). However, a ceremony is also an option. Both are sacramentally binding.

A ceremony is always preferred when one party is not baptized or is from another Christian tradition. You may speak to your Priest or Deacon presider about this.

You will need to choose three scripture readings for either a Mass or a ceremony, and select two readers who will Proclaim the Word, and one reader who will read the Prayers of the Faithful.

Scripture Selections:

- Old Testament Reading
- New Testament Reading
- Gospel Reading (read by the Priest or Deacon presider)

Poetry, literary passages, or song lyrics cannot replace scripture readings.

Vows are a part of the Catholic Rite of Marriage and cannot be changed.

A program can be helpful as a worship aid for guests to follow the Liturgy; examples and formats can be provided by the Wedding Liturgy Coordinator.

## *Music:*

Couples must arrange a meeting with the church's Music Director three months prior to your wedding. All wedding music must be planned with the Music Director; you will work closely with her to design a beautiful and prayerful Wedding Liturgy.

Additional musicians are available and can be arranged with the Music Director for an additional fee.

Please contact Sue Kaszynski, St. Giles Church Music Director, at:

708-383-3430 ext.423

[skaszynski@stgilesparish.org](mailto:skaszynski@stgilesparish.org)

## *Wedding Party:*

- Two witnesses are required.
- More than 10 attendants (per side) are NOT recommended.
- A total of three readers are needed.
- Two ushers are needed.
- Children under three years of age (who are not able to walk down the aisle unaided) are not recommended to serve in the wedding party - no carts, wagons or strollers may be used in the Wedding Liturgy.
- Animals are not allowed in the church (except for service animals).

## *Flowers and Decorations:*

Your florist may:

- Deliver to the church one (1) hour prior to wedding (please check-in with the St. Giles Wedding Coordinator or Greeter upon arrival).
- Place flowers on base of altar.
- Place flowers on pedestals near altar.
- Place pew bows with elastic, ribbon or rubber bands (no tape or wire may be used). There are a total of 67 pews.

Your florist may not:

- Place a runner in the aisle - (Runners are not permitted in the church).
- Place flowers on the altar.
- Block liturgical space with pedestals.
- Place pew bows using wire or tape.
- Block aisle access with fabric or ribbon.
- Move or adjust existing church decorations, markers or signage.
- Scatter flower petals. (Scattering of any flower petals is not permitted).

*Clean up and removal of the flowers and decorations are the responsibility of the bridal couple. Please appoint someone not involved in the photos to remove any flowers or other decorations if your florist is not available to clean-up. Clean-up must be done immediately after the Liturgy as other celebrations may be scheduled following your wedding.*



## *Photography/Videography:*

Your photographer may:

- Have access to the church 30 minutes prior to the wedding (please check-in with the St. Giles Wedding Coordinator or Greeter upon arrival).
- **Have access to the church for 30 minutes (only) after the wedding.**
- Take minimal flash photography during the Liturgy.
- Place stationary cameras in the break aisle or on the Mary side only.
- Place a stationary microphone on the lectern.
- Place a stationary microphone on the cantor stand.

Your photographer may not:

- Obstruct the center aisle (**NO stationary cameras**).
- Be obtrusive or interfere with the Liturgy.
- Be on the Altar during the Liturgy.
- Interrupt the procession or recession.
- Move or adjust existing church decorations.

## *Cultural Adaptations:*

*The following rituals are optional, and not central to the celebration of a Wedding Liturgy:*

- Unity Candle: the couple must provide the candles.
- Marian Devotion (flowers are placed before Mary's altar).
- Lazos, Jumping the Broom, Blessing of Bread or Coins, and other appropriate cultural traditions may be added to the Liturgy; **please discuss any adaptations with the Priest or Deacon presiding at your wedding celebration, as well as with the Wedding Coordinator so that the appropriate preparation may be made at the Rehearsal.**

Expressions of congratulations such as bubbles, bells or ribbons are allowed outside of the church. **Please, no bird seed, rice, balloons, butterflies, confetti or anything that would leave detritus on the church grounds. All empty containers and remaining articles must be removed from the front of the church following the Wedding Liturgy.**

## *Walking the Way*

Your marriage journey beyond the wedding day

- Join a parish and attend Mass regularly.
- Put faith life into action through service.
- Live out the gospel values in community.
- Join a parish ministry.
- Participate in adult faith formation.
- Attend our Annual Marriage Anniversary Mass.

*The Community of Faith here at St. Giles and the wider parish congratulates you and wishes you well. Your wedding is one day; your marriage is for life. We will pray for you and invite you to join us in prayer at Mass, where we are all strengthened for the journey.*

*Rev. Carl Morello*

Rev. Carl Morello

Pastor

St. Catherine of Siena-St. Lucy and St. Giles Parish