



Church of the Nativity Wedding Policies

Requirement	Description	Deadline
Prenuptial Investigation	This investigation, completed by pastoral staff, will determine your freedom to marry at which time a wedding date may be scheduled	To be completed at Wedding Planning Meeting.
Wedding Location	If the location of the Wedding is other than at Nativity, the location must be requested and approved by the Archdiocese. *Weddings at Nativity can be held on Saturdays: 11am or 1pm.	To be completed at Wedding Planning Meeting.
Permission/Dispensation for Mixed Religion Marriage	This form is required if a Catholic person seeks to marry a non-Catholic person. It is prepared by our pastoral staff and presented to you during the Wedding Planning Meeting.	To be completed at Wedding Planning Meeting.
Baptismal Certificate	For each Catholic person, you will need to contact your parish of baptism to request Sacramental records within six months of the wedding date. For non-Catholic baptized Christians, a duplicate copy of an original certificate (or a letter indicating place, date, and other information) is required	To be submitted to Church of the Nativity within six months of wedding date.
Letter of Permission from home parish of bride and groom	In cases where neither the bride nor groom is a Nativity parishioner, a Letter of Permission must be obtained from the parish where the bride or groom is registered	To be submitted within six months of wedding date by the bride and groom.

Secure a Priest or Deacon	It is the responsibility of the bride and groom to contact a priest or deacon. Before a wedding date is reserved, the priest or deacon must be confirmed in writing.	To be completed on or before Wedding Planning meeting and before a wedding date will be confirmed by Church of the Nativity.
Priest Suitability Certificate	Any priest or deacon presiding over a wedding at Nativity must be in good standing with their home Archdiocese. The Archdiocese must submit a letter verifying the priest or deacon's faculties within their Archdiocese.	To be submitted within six months of wedding date.
Priest Delegation Letter	The priest or deacon celebrating the wedding must request delegation from Nativity in writing. Once all paperwork is complete and faculties of the presider are verified, delegation will be granted in writing.	To be submitted within six months of wedding date.
Civil Marriage License for Baltimore County		To be submitted on or before the wedding rehearsal to Church of the Nativity
Together for Life Selections https://togetherforlifeonline.com	The bride and groom must make selections regarding the order of their ceremony or mass. The vows and liturgical prayers must be taken from the Together for Life options. Readings, response psalm and the intentions may vary	To be submitted within one month of wedding date to Church of the Nativity
Marriage Preparation	FOCCUS on Marriage: Couples complete the FOCCUS inventory and meet with a FOCCUS mentor couple for review. Virtual Options: Catholic Marriage Prep The Marriage Group	To be completed three months before the wedding date.

Other important information as you plan your wedding:

Time of the Wedding:

Available wedding times are: 11:00 am or 1:00 pm on Saturdays. Rehearsals are scheduled the Friday before the Wedding.

Parish Membership:

Anyone wishing to be married at Nativity must be a member or be related to someone who is a member of our parish.

Fees and offerings:

Sanctuary Fee: \$550.

Priest Fee: to be determined between the couple and Priest

Marriage Preparation: \$125.

Music:

Nativity is not responsible for making any arrangements regarding the music on the day of the wedding. It is the sole responsibility of the bride and groom to coordinate the music for the ceremony. If you are interested in using members from Nativity's house band please contact Al Walsh directly at alwalsh@hotmail.com.

Videography:

Nativity is not responsible for making any arrangements regarding videography of your ceremony. It is the sole responsibility of the bride and groom to coordinate video recording of the ceremony.

Official Witnesses:

The maid/matron of honor and the Best Man are the official witnesses to the marriage. It is not required that they be Catholic.

Unity Candle:

Lighting of the Unity candle is permitted as part of the marriage ceremony. The bride and groom must provide everything needed for the lighting of the unity candle.

Flowers:

Flower arrangements are permitted on the altar.

Please refrain from the following:

Please do not sprinkle live floral petals during the aisle inside the sanctuary.

Please do not sprinkle rice outside of the church.

After all of the marriage preparation is complete, if the marriage is taking place at Nativity, a team of Nativity special events ministers will contact you to discuss details pertaining to the flow of the wedding. These ministers will be available to serve the bride and groom, the wedding party and the guests during the rehearsal and on the day of the wedding.