

**PREPARATION FOR CHRISTIAN MARRIAGE AT  
THE CHURCH OF CHRIST THE KING**

We look forward to the celebration of your marriage at Christ the King. We believe that the liturgy of marriage is very much a community event – a prayer of praise and thanksgiving for God’s gift of love in you and a heartfelt petition that your love will grow to enrich each other and our entire parish.

We hope that as you prepare for your life together you will be active in worship with us as well as in our ministries of service.

Catholics may seek permission to marry baptized non-Catholics and unbaptized persons with the understanding that there will be an atmosphere of mutual respect for each partner’s freedom to practice their beliefs.

A dispensation from the Catholic form of marriage can also be sought if a marriage is to take place in the denomination church of the non-Catholic partner. The minister in that denomination serves as the official witness of the ceremony in that church. With the dispensation, the marriage is recognized as valid and does not require the presence of a priest.

Ministers of other denominations are welcome to assist at ceremonies held at Christ the King. The official witness will be the pastor of Christ the King, representing the custom here.

Wherever the wedding is celebrated, the parish and diocesan requirements for pre-marriage preparation need to be fulfilled.

To be married at Christ the King, one of the following conditions needs to be met:

- One of you is a member of the parish.
- Those whose parents are current and active members of the parish.

If you will be married at another location, please speak to the pastor about how we will help you prepare for marriage.

**CHECKLIST:** To ensure your preparation for the Sacrament of Marriage is as meaningful as possible, the Church of Christ the King has developed this information as a brief introduction to the process in this parish in the form of a checklist through which you will experience and participate in several elements in preparation for your wedding day and marriage.

- Complete the Wedding Intake form and submit it to the Parish Office, [parishoffice@ctkmpls.org](mailto:parishoffice@ctkmpls.org).
- Contact Fr. Bill Murtaugh, to begin this process: [wmurtaugh@ctkmpls.org](mailto:wmurtaugh@ctkmpls.org): 612-920-5030, x 13.
- Schedule your wedding liturgy with the Pastor for a Friday evening or a Saturday no later than 2:00 pm. A rehearsal is generally scheduled for the previous day.

- About nine months prior to your wedding you will need to meet with the Pastor to complete a prenuptial questionnaire which establishes the place of residence, freedom to marry, and religious status of each individual.
- All couples complete on-line the Marriage Inventory: PREPARE.
- The pastor will assign a mentor couple to you. They will review the results of the inventory with you. Some topics of discussion are communication, conflict resolution, financial management, sexual relationships, children and parenting, spiritual beliefs, and role relationships. Your conversations with the mentor couple are private and confidential.
- Attend a Marriage Workshop through the Archdiocese. [www.archspm.org/departments/marriage](http://www.archspm.org/departments/marriage).
- At least six weeks prior to your wedding liturgy, you will need to meet with Director of Liturgy and Music, Moya McGinn Mathews: 612-920-5030, x 12, mmmathews@ctkmpls.org. Your ideas for the various parts of the service can be discussed and sample worship aids can be viewed. All musical selections need the approval of the Director of Liturgy and Music. Any additional musicians will be discussed at that time.
- Marriage licenses can be obtained from any county licensing bureaus in Minnesota. They are valid for six months from the date of application. With the completion of the marriage preparation program at Christ the King, you may present a signed letter from the Pastor which entitles you to a significant discount on the license fee.
- **Please bring the marriage license to the wedding rehearsal.**

### **Marriage Liturgy Fees**

Christ the King parish asks for a total fee offering of \$1000 for marriage liturgies. An initial payment of \$250 holds your date and helps defray the parish's cost for the PREPARE instrument and the interpretation of your responses.

Your further payment is due 2 weeks before the wedding and helps to cover the costs of all your pre-marriage preparation, the liturgy preparation, the layout and printing of your worship programs. Additionally, the fee defrays the cost of salaries and stipends for the presiding priest, the organist/pianist, the cantor/song leader, the liturgy director, the maintenance staff and building overhead.

We are happy to be of service to you at this joyous time, and we appreciate your faithful giving.

## **GUIDELINES FOR USE OF CHRIST THE KING CHURCH FOR WEDDINGS**

- The Church is available two (2) hours prior to the beginning of the wedding. Additional time can be arranged by contacting the Wedding Coordinator.
- **ALL WEDDINGS** – The Church must be cleaned up within 1 hour following the wedding. All worship aids and other disposables must be emptied from the pews.
- Remove all decorations and ornamentations
- No candles in the aisles or on the end of the pews are allowed.
- No aisle runners are permitted.
- Throwing of flower petals in church or the throwing of rice or seeds outside is not allowed.
- **Photography:** The photographer cannot be in the middle aisle during the procession and cannot be in the sanctuary on any tiled space.
- The parish library and the downstairs social hall are available for dressing.
- Please contact the parish office at 612-920-5030, [parishoffice@ctkmpls.org](mailto:parishoffice@ctkmpls.org) with additional concerns.

**SPECIAL NOTE: Even though spaces can be locked, please do not bring any valuables.**

**The Church of Christ the King assumes no responsibility for any lost or stolen valuables.**