



SAINT DENNIS PARISH

A CATHOLIC CHURCH CENTERED ON CHRIST

Congratulations on
your wedding announcement!

The Saint Dennis community shares in your joy and welcomes the opportunity to celebrate God's blessings and presence in your love for each other.

It is our hope that this booklet may be helpful in preparing your wedding liturgy at Saint Dennis.

For questions, or to schedule a wedding at
St. Dennis, please contact:
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Scheduling Your Wedding

Any couple in which at least one party is a registered and active member of the parish may be married at Saint Dennis.

Couples who are not registered and would like to marry are invited to register at least six months prior to the wedding. Diocesan guidelines necessitate that at least a six-month period of engagement be observed.

To schedule the date and time of your wedding, please contact Pat Hendrickson at the parish office at (608) 246-5214, ext. 217.

Marriage Preparation Process

- I. Once the wedding date has been set, you must meet with the pastoral minister to discuss certain liturgical requirements and principles when planning your wedding liturgy. You will also discuss the marriage preparation process here at Saint Dennis, as well as the programs offered by our diocese and receive helpful resources as you plan for your special day.
- II. You will be required to attend two Diocesan classes meant to help you, as a couple, with communication, conflict resolution, spirituality, and many other important issues. Please register on the Diocese of Madison website at: www.madisondiocese.org/mp
- III. You will also be assigned to one of our parish FOCCUS couples, who are trained in the marriage preparation process. They will contact you to meet with them in their home for two sessions. Together, you will work through the FOCCUS inventory, a tool that is helpful in assessing the different qualities of your relationship and designed to foster good communication between couples preparing for marriage.
- IV. The pastoral minister, the musicians, and priest/deacon will work closely with you to choose music for the liturgy. There is **no electronic music** (tapes, CDs, karaoke-style singing with tape accompaniment) allowed either before, during, or after the wedding liturgy.
- V. Both Catholic parties must provide a Certificate of Baptism, recently issued within six months of the wedding date. The non-Catholic party (if baptized) needs to obtain a Certificate of Baptism from his/her church.
- VI. A wedding coordinator will be assigned to work with you for the rehearsal and on the day of your wedding.

- VII. Rehearsals are usually scheduled for the evening preceding the day of the wedding. The couple should discuss this with the pastoral minister. In most cases there will not be music at the rehearsal. Formal dress is not required. Please bring the marriage license to the rehearsal.
- VIII. You will need to meet with the priest/deacon who will be performing your wedding ceremony 4 weeks before the wedding.
- IX. Please bring your marriage license and the fee for the use of the church to the rehearsal.
- X. The church offers two forms of weddings:
 - The rite of marriage outside of Mass is normally celebrated when one party is Catholic and the other party is from another faith tradition. This ceremony lasts approximately 25-30 minutes.
 - The rite of marriage with Mass is normally celebrated when both parties are Catholic. The Mass with marriage ceremony lasts approximately 45-50 minutes.

Marriage License Information

Where to Apply

1. Wisconsin residents apply in the county where one or both parties has resided for at least thirty days prior to the date of application for marriage license. The license then may be used to marry in any county in the state.
2. Out-of-state residents must apply in the county where the ceremony will take place.

Waiting Period

1. Application is made at least six full days before the license can be issued. You then may use your license within the next thirty days.
2. A waiver of the waiting period can be granted in special cases.
3. Please bring the license to the rehearsal.

For up-to-date information regarding marriage license information, check the Dane County Clerk marriage license information website at www.co.dane.wi.us/coclerk/marriag.htm.

Parish Policy

Church Environment

The church is a gathering place of worship. We ask that you respect the sense of the sacred and foster an attitude of prayerfulness and hospitality.

The sanctuary area of the church is usually decorated according to the season of the Church year or for a special feast. Any decorations for your wedding liturgy must work with the already existing church decorations.

Flowers/Green Plants in the Sanctuary

Only real flowers are appropriate in the sanctuary. You are most welcome to leave floral arrangements for the weekend Masses.

Aisle Runner

An item related to the environment is the aisle runner, which, some historians say, originated as a cover for the dirt floors of ancient churches. Today, it is an unnecessary nuisance and at Saint Dennis is a significant safety hazard due to the pitch and carpeted floor. Thus, for a greater sense of hospitality to those who struggle walking on this surface, aisle runners are not allowed.

Rice/Birdseed/Confetti

Parish policy is a simple NO and will not be allowed.

Pew Bows

If you place bows on the pews we ask that you avoid using tape, as it tends to leave a residue on the pews and can damage the finish.

Please remove the bows after the liturgy. There are sixteen pews from front to back on each side of the middle aisle.

Use of the Church

The fee for your wedding is \$300.00. This includes the fee for the use of the church, the fee for the wedding coordinator and the stipend for the priest or deacon.

Please make check payable to St. Dennis Parish.

We expect the church and the facilities used (church, fellowship hall, ushers' room, bathrooms, etc.) to be left in the same condition as you found them. Failure to do so may incur an extra fee.

Programs

We encourage you to include the music that will be used within the liturgy. It is a simple gesture of hospitality to help all who have assembled be active participants in the celebration.

Before printing the program, you are asked to consult with the pastoral minister or priest/deacon for clarification and approval.

Receiving Line

The receiving line should take place at the reception.

Alcohol and Smoking

Saint Dennis Parish Policy states that there be no alcohol within the church building or parish grounds. Any evident use of alcoholic beverages by members of the wedding party will be cause not to proceed with the wedding.

Photography/Video Cameras

Pictures may be taken during the liturgy with the use of flash, providing the photographer is unobtrusive.

We encourage pictures to be taken prior to the liturgy. On days where there is more than one wedding scheduled, you must be finished with photos thirty minutes before the parish Mass.

Furniture and other objects in the church are not to be moved without permission of the priest/deacon.

Wedding Liturgy Planning Guide

See the book, "Together for Life," which you have received.

Wedding Music Suggestions

Processional/Recessional Music

Any of these selections can be used for the Attendants (A), for the Bride and Groom (BG), or for Recessional Music (R). Please mark them accordingly. These are suggestions; the musicians may have other recommendations.

Bridal Chorus – Wagner
Trumpet Voluntary in D – Jeremiah Clarke (Purcell)
Canon in D – Johann Pachelbel
Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring – J.S. Bach
Ode to Joy – Ludwig von Beethoven
Trumpet Tune in C – Jeremiah Clarke (Purcell)
Hornpipe – G.F. Handel

Opening/Closing Songs

These are selected from the *St. Dennis Gather Comprehensive Hymnal*. Please check all songs that interest you.

Glory and Praise To Our God/#522
Lift Up Your Hearts/#558
Table of Plenty/*Spirit & Song 1*/#163
All Creatures of Our God and King/#533
Blessing the Marriage/#871
Covenant Hymn/#797
For the Beauty of the Earth/#572
Gather Us In/#744
God, In the Planning/#868
Joyful, Joyful, We Adore You/#528
Now Thank We All Our God/#565
Sing a New Song/#537
When Love is Found/#865

Psalm Responses

These are selected from the *St. Dennis Gather Comprehensive Hymnal*. The musicians may have other suggestions. Please check all songs that interest you.

Psalm 24: I Have Loved You/#504
Psalm 33: Happy Are the People/#45, refrain III
Psalm 34: I Will Bless the Lord/#46
Psalm 91: One Eagle's Wings/#611
Psalm 126: God Has Done Great Things for Us/#124
Psalm 34: Taste and See/#47
Psalm 128: May the Lord Bless Us/125, refrain II
Psalm 145: I Will Praise Your Name/#137
Psalm 25: To You, O Lord/#36
Psalm 8: All My Days (Schutte)
Psalm 118: Let Us Rejoice/#114
Psalm 118: This Day Was Made by the Lord

Communion Songs

These are selected from the St. Dennis *Gather Comprehensive Hymnal*. Please check all songs that interest you. These songs may also be used for the Presentation of the Gifts.

Eat This Bread/#838
Here in This Place/#839
I Am the Bread of Life/#828
In the Breaking of the Bread/#841
One Bread, One Body/#830
On Eagle's Wings/#611
Pan de Vida/Bread of Life/#848
Song of the Body of Christ/#847
The Servant Song/#669
We Come to Your Feast/ #850

Recessional Music

Please feel free to substitute these pieces with processional pieces.

Prelude and Fugue in C – J.S. Bach
Prelude and Fugue in F – J.S. Bach
Prelude in Classical Style – Gordon Young
Hornpipe – G.F. Handel

Vocal Solos

These approved solos are only suggestions. The Director of Liturgy and Music and the presiding priest/deacon must approve any music you choose. The musicians will also have other music recommendations.

The Gift of Love – arr. Hal Hopson
For the Beauty of the Earth – arr. John Rutter
Ave Maria – Franz Schubert
Ave Maria – Charles Gounod/J.S. Bach
How Beautiful – Twila Paris – *Spirit & Song*
Bridal Prayer – Roger Copeland
Bridegroom and Bride – Haas & Haugen
Come and Journey with Me - Haas
God Be with You - Haas
Hand in Hand – Spirit & Song 2, #245
Holy Communion – Jim Weber & Niles Borop
Household of Faith – Brent Lamb & John Rosasco
Lives Brought Together - Schutte
Set Me As a Seal – Spirit & Song 2/#243
To Believe in Love – Spirit & Song 2/#244

There is no electronic music (CDs, cassette tapes, karaoke-style singing w/tape accompaniment) allowed either before, during, or after the wedding ceremony.