

# **STS. ANNE & JOACHIM CATHOLIC CHURCH**

## **WEDDING POLICY**

The Diocese of Fargo requires that the parish clergy, where the wedding is to be held, be contacted **AT LEAST SIX MONTHS** prior to the wedding date.

At Sts. Anne & Joachim, we ask the couple to contact the wedding coordinator (235-5757) *seven* months before the wedding date to initiate the marriage preparation process, which will make sure that any necessary initial delays will still allow for six months preparation time.

A **date** for all marriages will be set after any necessary meetings with the pastor and after the wedding has been approved.

- **Registered members of the parish** should contact the wedding coordinator to request a date in accordance with the time frame for marriage preparation as stated above.
- Couples whose **parents are members of the parish** should contact the wedding coordinator to request a date for a wedding in accordance with the time frame for marriage preparation as stated above.
- **For those registering at this time:**
  - 1) **Living within our parish boundaries**
    - they may request a date in accordance with the time frame for marriage preparation as stated above.
  - 2) **Living outside our parish boundaries**
    - they will need to allow for a *nine-month* period of preparation: three months must elapse before a date may be requested, followed by the normal six months of preparation time.

(The parish boundaries are: north to 32<sup>nd</sup> Ave S; east to the Red River; west to Interstate 29; south to 124<sup>th</sup> Ave S)

Couples living together will meet with the pastor before any other steps can take place. Be aware that cohabitating/pre-marital sex is a serious violation of the discipleship of Jesus Christ, and couples need to come with a willingness to hear the truth of the Gospel and change.

Once the requested date is approved by the pastor, the date is placed on the master calendar. A meeting with the wedding coordinator should occur soon after the wedding date has been approved to review the wedding guidelines of the parish and to receive information on the diocesan-required programs.

The fee for facility use is \$325. Half of the parish fee (\$162.50) is due at the initial meeting with the wedding coordinator; the other half of the fee is due one month before the wedding.

At the pastor's discretion, exceptions may be made to these policies.

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