

CATHEDRAL OF SAINT MARY
7525 NORTHWEST SECOND AVENUE
MIAMI, FLORIDA 33150
TEL 305.759.4531 / FAX 305.757.7456

OFFICE OF THE RECTOR

WEDDING INFORMATION & GUIDELINES

FEBRUARY 2009

We are honored that you have selected the Cathedral of Saint Mary for your wedding. Please read the following guidelines carefully.

PLEASE NOTE: ONLY THOSE WHO ARE FREE TO MARRY IN THE CATHOLIC CHURCH MAY CELEBRATE THEIR WEDDING AT SAINT MARY. If either of you have been married before-even if only in Civil Court-it will be necessary for you to prove that your former spouse has died or that the first marriage (even if only civil) was declared null by a Roman Catholic Marriage Tribunal.

NO WEDDING DATE MAY BE SET UNTIL BOTH PARTIES ARE FREE TO MARRY.

<i>DAYS AND TIMES FOR WEDDINGS:</i>		<i>USAGE FEES AND DONATIONS:</i>	
Friday	7:00pm	Standard Donation	\$1,000.00
Saturday	1:00pm	Cathedral Organist	\$300.00
	3:00pm	Cathedral Vocalist	\$200.00
	7:00pm	<i>Only the Cathedral Musicians are allowed at the wedding ceremony.</i>	
<p>A \$200.00 NON-REFUNDABLE DEPOSIT ALONG WITH BAPTISMAL CERTIFICATE IS NECESSARY before a date may be secured in the wedding book. All fees, donations and documents are required 30 days prior to the wedding or the date will be cancelled. Payment may be made by check or cash. The deposit is considered a partial payment of the standard donation.</p>			

REQUIRED DOCUMENTS:

- Recent Original Baptismal Certificate with Church Seal (issued in the **last six months**)
- Pre-Nuptial Questionnaire (**A Form**)
- Freedom to Marry Witnesses (**B Forms**) (2 for bride and 2 for groom)
- Certificate of Attendance at Pre-Marriage Instruction Class
- Marriage License from the State of Florida (issued **60 days prior** to the wedding date)
- In case of **prior marriage**, one of the following is required:
 - Death Certificate (of former spouse)
 - Decree of Annulment
 - Decree of Nullity

All the above Documents must be received at the Cathedral 30 days prior to the Wedding Date.

SECURITY: For additional security at the time of the wedding the couple must make their own arrangements with the City of Miami Police Department by contacting the Special Events Department.

WEDDING GUIDELINES AT THE CATHEDRAL

WEDDING PARTY: Dress must be **respectful** and in accordance with the Church environment for **all wedding party members**. The number of bridesmaids allowed is limited.

REHEARSAL: The couple to be married and **all members** of their wedding party **are expected to attend and arrive on time** for the wedding rehearsal. The Cathedral Wedding Coordinator will **wait no longer than 15 minutes** for the rehearsal to begin-after that the Church will be closed, and the ceremony will take place without a rehearsal.

WEDDING DAY: The ceremony **must begin on time**. It is **required** that the **groom arrive 45 minutes prior** and **bride 30 minutes prior** as well as **all members** of the wedding party. Due to the Cathedral's schedule, the Priest or Deacon will **wait no longer than 15 minutes** for a wedding to begin. **LATENESS MAY RESULT IN A SHORTER OR CANCELLED CEREMONY.**

FLOWERS: **Only two bouquets are allowed in the Cathedral Sanctuary. No other floral arrangements**, runners or carpets are permitted down the center aisle of the Cathedral. No ribbons, candles or small bouquets are permitted on the pews. **No rice, birdseed, flower pedals, streamers, balloons, doves, butterflies, or bubbles** (even non skid) are allowed in the Cathedral or the outside property. Please note that the flower arrangements are considered a **donation** to the Cathedral and are not to be removed from the sanctuary.

CEREMONY: **Unity Candle, Rosary (Lazo), Veil (Mantilla)**; only **one symbol** may be used during the ceremony.

PHOTOGRAPHY: **One hour before the weddings scheduled time the photographer and videographer must meet with the Cathedral Master of Ceremonies** who will indicate where they can stand-center aisle for processional and recessional and left or right of the sanctuary during the ceremony. They cannot enter the sanctuary area at anytime.

Flash or video lights can only be used for the bridal party's entrance and exit **and not during the ceremony**. Flood lighting is **not permitted** nor is there access to electrical outlets. The video camera must remain in a **fixed** (tripod) position during the ceremony and must be battery operated.

The wedding party **cannot be stopped** at any time for posed photographs during the **entrance and exit**. The cathedral will be available for **20 minutes** immediately following the ceremony for group photographs which should take place in a quiet and reverential manner. No **fun** poses are allowed at anytime nor can anyone be photographed **sitting** on the sanctuary steps or floor. Detailed instructions of the photographer/videographer are **being provided** to the couple with this form and which they **agree to deliver** to photographer/videographer when contracting their professional services.

CATHEDRAL MASTER OF CEREMONIES: Will conduct the rehearsal and has the authority to make the final decision on what is allowed or not allowed for a Cathedral wedding ceremony. Should the couple have a Wedding Coordinator he/she is only responsible for the **non-church** related events.

I have read and agree to all of the above wedding guidelines.

Date: _____