

# St. Paul Catholic Church Sacraments of Matrimony Requirements

Has the couple received the Sacraments (3): Baptism, First Communion and Confirmation? And are they registered in the parish?

Both Saint Paul Catholic Church and Old Saint Paul Catholic Church are much sought-after locations for weddings. Couples should not assume that their selected date will be available. **Important: allow 6-months for planning and processing.**

## Couples and the Sacraments

- One partner has to be a Catholic in order to be sacramentally married in the Catholic Church
- The Catholic /partners must be baptized and received all the (3) Sacraments)
- Non-Christians cannot receive the sacraments.

## Not registered in parish?

To register as a St. Paul Catholic Church member, download Registration Form from parish website [www.spccnb.org](http://www.spccnb.org). Submit the completed form to Parish Office.

1. At least one of the partners must have received the (3) Sacraments: Baptism, First Communion and Confirmation and registered at St. Paul Church.

## 2. Appointments with priest

There will be 3-separate appointments

- Send email to [marriages@spccnb.org](mailto:marriages@spccnb.org) to request appointment
- The couple must have (1) appointment prior to setting their wedding date
- They will need to bring to their appointment their **required documents**
- Once the couple meets with the priest for the first-time, they will be given a marriage folder. Followed by a fully-engaged couple questionnaire that will be sent to them to the email address provided. A small fee will be charged for the workbook

## 3. Securing a wedding date/ceremony options

- Couples have three options for their wedding ceremony– Old Saint Paul, Saint Paul Catholic Church or Saint Joseph Chapel
- Arrangements for their wedding ceremony must be made a minimum of 6-months in advance.
- Securing a wedding date cannot be done over the phone
- After the first appointment, with the approval of the priest, the wedding date will be confirmed
- There are (2) options for the wedding, it may be a simple ceremony or a full Mass

## Required documents

Dated within 6-months of the couples proposed wedding date:

- Stamped copy of Certificate of Baptism, First Communion and Confirmation
- Declaration of Nullity, if previously married.
- For widows and widowers, an authentic certificate of death of their departed spouses with whom they were married and a marriage certificate of the previous wedding
- ^The couple may be required to complete a fully-engaged questionnaire
- Marriage license from the civil registrar's office, which includes the application of the two parties (sometimes called the "long form"). This is obtainable from the local government; visit the county website under "marriage licenses."

## 4. Required Workshops /Wedding Consultation/Extra Costs

- The couple may be required to attend a marriage one-day workshop (Diocese)—*the registration fees will be the couples responsibility*
- Parishioners may request a wedding consultation as early as 18 months prior to the desired time frame; non-parishioners are eligible 12 months prior
- A wedding coordinator will be assigned *free of charge*. She will guide the reception and the date of the wedding processions. She will approve any flowers, decorations or video graphing that is allowed
- Extra costs could include: Donation to the priest, Organist/Piano, Cantor, Altar Servers

## The process Stops due to:

- Not submitting all necessary forms and documents
- Failing to make appointments

Celebrating the Sacrament of Marriage in the Catholic Church is a joyous experience for bride and groom. The Church rejoices in the loving vocation of matrimony and welcomes those who enter into this holy union.