



## **GUIDE TO RECEIVE THE SACRAMENT OF MATRIMONY**

### **• PREVIOUS REQUIREMENTS:**

1. Notify the Pastor, in your desire to receive the sacrament of marriage, at least 6 months in advance from the desired date for the wedding.
2. Must be at least 19 years of age.
3. Both the bride and groom must bring in their Certificate of Baptism with a printing date of no longer than 6 month.
4. Must attend the preparation classes offered by the parish.
5. Or, the couple may attend the retreat “Caminos de Matrimonio” that are offered by the Archdioceses.
6. Or, the couple may also attend the retreat “Matrimonio 2000” which is only for couples that have been married through the court offered by the Archdioceses as well.
7. Must have taken the evaluation “Focus”.
8. Must bring in a copy of their Marriage Certificate if they have it.
9. Must bring in a copy of their divorce certificate if either one has been divorced.
10. If the couple comes from a different parish, they must bring in a permission letter from their pastor.
11. Have obtained a marriage license from Miami-Dade County. This license is obtained from Monday to Friday, from 8:30am to 4:00pm in the county office located in 14 West Flagler St., #1503, Miami, FL 33130. This license is valid for 60 days.

### **• RESERVE THE DATE:**

To reserve the desired date, the previous requirements must have been started and the Baptismal Certificate should have been at least presented.

**• TIMES FOR THE WEDDING:** Weddings are only celebrated on Fridays and Saturdays.

• **DONATION:** The Church does not charge for the celebration of any Sacrament, this being said the couples may be married in The Chapel of Our Lord of Miracles, which has a capacity of 60 people. The Chapel is only available to members of the parish for a donation. However, if the couple wishes to be married in the Mother Church, (members and non-members) must make an appointment with the person in charge to celebrate the sacrament. All donations will be completed at least a month before the wedding date.

• **REHEARSAL:** The person who is in charge will do the wedding rehearsal during the week of the wedding. Please remember that the rehearsal is exactly that just a rehearsal, that being said it is not a day to make other plans. The bride and groom must have done and discussed all the plans beforehand with the Deacon or Priest. All of those who will be participating in the wedding, such as, lectors, godparents, court, etc. must attend the rehearsal.

• **DECORATIONS:**

1. Only 2 flower arrangements are permitted on the altar
2. Ribbons, vails, or laces are not permitted on the pews; neither are columns, flower arches, nor anything that's needs to be nailed, glued or taped to the floor or pews.
3. No other decorations are permitted in the Church.
4. It is not permitted to throw rice, seeds, flower petals whether they are natural or artificial inside or outside of the Church.

• **PHOTOGRAPHS:** Only one photographer and video camera is permitted. Both will photograph and record from the lateral sides of the Sanctuary. Whoever will be photographing or recording must speak with the celebrant before the ceremony so that they may be reminded of the policies of the Church. After the ceremony the couple has 30 minutes to take pictures. The cost of the photographs and videos is at the responsibility of the bride and groom.

• **MUSIC:** The bride and groom must make their own arrangements. The parish will provide contact information for our music ministry. The payment to the musicians or singers is between them and the bride and groom.