

# Wedding Policy

## Church of St. Joseph St. Joseph, MN

Congratulations on your engagement! To assist you in your plans, we have developed the following wedding policy.

We receive numerous requests from couples who have no affiliation with the Church of St. Joseph, but wish to celebrate their wedding in our church. In order to give first priority for the use of the church to active and registered parishioners, we have created this policy.

We have neither the staff nor the space to accommodate all those wishing to use the church for weddings. You should not register to become a member of our parish solely to have your wedding here. It is only fair and just that registered active parishioners will be given first priority on available dates. If you are not currently a registered active member of St. Joseph Parish, keep in mind the following guidelines in order to set your wedding date:

1. You need to have a connection to Church of St. Joseph, i.e., the bride's and/or groom's parents are registered members of the parish.
2. If you choose to become a member, you will need to be a registered active parishioner for at least six months prior to setting your wedding date. At that time, your date will be confirmed with a deposit. The expectations of a registered active parishioner are as follows:
  - a. Register in the parish;
  - b. Attend Mass regularly;
  - c. Participate in parish activities and educational opportunities;
  - d. Practice good stewardship – volunteer a portion of your time and talent, for example, be a lector at Mass, a catechist for faith formation, serve on a committee, and help with the July 4<sup>th</sup> parish festival;
  - e. Share fairly in the cost of operating our parish by returning a percentage of your material blessings. In other words, monetarily contribute your fair share to the Church of St. Joseph.
3. If you have been previously married, your annulment must be completed prior to setting a wedding date.