

### Other do's and do not's

Without exception, there is to be no alcoholic beverages allowed inside the church or out on church property. Also, please inform your friends that there is to be no throwing of rice, flower petal, birdseed, confetti, bubbles, glitter, etc. on church property. Also, there are no runners allowed down the center isle of the church. Our floor is Italian marble, and runners can be slippery, thus becoming a hazard. Also, flower petals and confetti can stain and damage marble, not to mention, be a safety hazard itself. The elements of the ceremony should be discussed with the priest assisting you well in advance of the rehearsal date.

A bridal room is available for the bride and her attendants. We ask that after the ceremony is complete, that you be sure to clean all pins and needles, as they can be dangerous if left in the carpet. The groom and his groomsmen use the chapel sacristy. There is no one permitted in the main priest's sacristy of the altar server room. No candle-lit services are allowed, and we request that there be no receiving line after the ceremony. Please remember to respect the Blessed Sacrament when entering the church. We gently remind you that this is a house of worship, so proper dignity and reverence is expected while in the church and on church grounds. This applies to especially to your post-ceremony photography, where there are people often praying silently before Mass. Thank you for being mindful of others on your special day. We look forward to sharing it with you.

**If you are in need of assistance finding a florist, photographer, etc.,  
local vendors may be found in the advertisements  
in the back of our bulletin.**



*"This is my commandment:*

*Love one another as I have loved you."*

*-John 15:12*

### The Sacrament of Marriage

General guidelines for your wedding ceremony

St. Patrick Catholic Church

Palm Beach Gardens, Florida

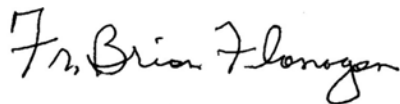
561-626-8626

Dear prospective bride and groom,

Congratulations to you on behalf of the staff and family of St. Patrick Church. Our pastoral staff is happy to help you prepare, plan and participate in the rich variety of music, prayers and readings that are available for your wedding ceremony.

We offer the following guidelines to assist your preparation for celebrating this sacrament of your love for one another.

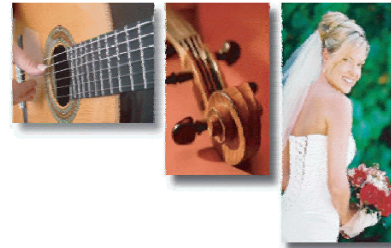
In Christ,



Fr. Brian Flanagan

Pastor

## Music



Music is an integral part of your ceremony. Musicians serving at your wedding are from the St. Patrick Music Department. The church employs a professional organist, and maintains a roster of professional singers. Therefore, outside musicians are not permitted to perform during weddings without the express permission of the music director. If outside soloists are requested, one of our staff must also be present to sing the liturgical portions of your ceremony. Please discuss this with the music director. Any approved arrangements (brass, strings, etc.) are at the expense of the couple, and are not included in the fee package.

The number of musical selections at your wedding will be determined by the type of ceremony you have planned. A Nuptial Mass is a Solemn Mass including Communion rites. The Responsorial Psalm should be sung.

**Your fee paid to the church does include an organist and one singer.** Please contact the Music office at 626-8626, ex. 103 to set up an appointment with the music director.



## Photography



Professional photographers and others desiring to take pictures are welcome, but they are required to consult with the priest prior to the ceremony. It will be expected that photographers will not distract or impede the ceremony.

Also, they will be asked not to use bright lights or flashes during the sacred moments of the ceremony. If photos are to be taken after the ceremony, they are to be completed within thirty minutes. This rule is especially important for all 2:00 p.m. Saturday weddings.

## Fees

The cost of the church for non-parishioners is \$1000.00. For registered Parishioners, the fee is \$600.00, less your offertory contributions for the current year. A deposit of \$100.00 is required to hold your selected date. This fee is non-refundable if your wedding is canceled less than 6 months prior. This offering provides for the use of the church, its maintenance staff, the stipend for the celebrant, as well as for the organist and one singer. We ask that this be paid to the office at least four months in advance. If you are experiencing financial hardship, please discuss this with the priest who is assisting you. If you would like to use a visiting priest, you will need to receive permission from Fr. Flanagan. Also, you will be responsible for paying the stipend of any visiting priests.

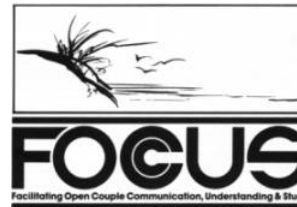
## Wedding Date

In order that you may receive the date and time you wish for your wedding, please call the parish office for an appointment with one of our clergy for your initial interview as soon as you decide to marry.

## Engaged Encounter

This is a one day program sponsored by the Diocese of Palm Beach. The program is held throughout the year at various churches in the diocese. The program is usually held on a Saturday. It is a requirement that all couples attend this.

## FOCCUS



FOCCUS (*Facilitating Open Couple Communication, Understanding & Study*), is a survey that you will be asked to share. FOCCUS is an aid for your marriage preparation. It can help you study, understand and communicate openly about many things that are important to your relationship. It is not a test or a way to predict the future. It is designed to help you target the topics you need and want to talk about as a couple.

## Scheduling



Weddings may be scheduled year-round on Saturdays at 10:00 a.m., 12 Noon & 2:00 p.m. From May 1 through December 31, weddings may also be scheduled at 6:00 p.m.

Weddings may also be scheduled on other weekdays as well. With respect to all who make use of St. Patrick and our facilities, we kindly ask that your wedding begins and ends on time, especially with our 2:00 p.m. Saturday weddings. This helps facilitate a smooth transition before the 4:00 p.m. Mass.

## Documents Required

If baptized, an updated copy of your baptismal certificate will be needed from within the last six months. Widows and widowers must present a Death Certificate for their previous spouse. If you have had a previous marriage annulled, you must present the Declaration of Nullity. A Marriage License is an absolute requirement for marriage in the State of Florida. For information on this, please contact the Clerk of Palm Beach County at 561-624-6500. The priest performing your wedding will meet with you at least two months prior to the wedding ceremony to help you complete required paperwork and to discuss your ceremony with you.

## Rehearsal

The priests assisting you will suggest a time for the rehearsal. The wedding party and all who participate in the ceremony are to attend. Please remember that your marriage license and the suggested donation to the Church, as well as the script from Together for Life must be taken care of at this time, if not done so previously. Please have any directions in the gathering area with a floor chart, if possible. Your assigned coordinator will be at the rehearsal to efficiently facilitate and answer any non-clerical questions you may have.

## Flowers



Flowers in the church are the responsibility of the couple. An arrangement placed in front of the altar is appropriate. If there is a wish for additional flowers, an arrangement can be placed in front of the pulpit, as well as on either side of the altar. Flowers, ribbons & candles are not to be taped, glued, puttied, wired or stapled to the pews. Please use only rubber bands or a cloth tie. All questions regarding flowers and other floral arrangements should be directed to the priests assisting you with your preparations.