

WEDDING REHEARSAL GUIDELINES

Welcome to the Cathedral

It is important that you and all the people involved in your wedding **BE ON TIME** for the rehearsal. The church is open and arriving a few minutes ahead of the scheduled time is helpful...parking can be an issue. Remember that you are commuting to a downtown church adjacent to a university, in most instances, during rush hour traffic. Please be sure that everyone knows to **ALLOW AMPLE TIME**. Your rehearsal will begin on time, as precisely one hour has been allotted and there may be a rehearsal before or after yours.

WHAT TO DECIDE in preparation for your rehearsal:

- Most likely you have selected music for the "seating of the mothers." Decide which mothers/grandmothers/stepmothers are included. The total will be important information for the wedding coordinator.
- Decide on the pairings of the groomsmen seating the mothers/grandmothers/stepmothers. Please inform all of them of the arrangement for this, as it will be rehearsed.
- Most likely you have already selected THREE readers. If not, now is the time to do so.
- Decide who will carry the crucifix in the bridal processional. (Can be one of the readers, or someone else.)
- Decide who will carry the Book of the Gospels in the bridal processional. (Can be one of the readers, or someone else.)
- For communion: IF you have planned with the priest and the Music Minister to have a Mass, for Communion you will also need to:
 - Decide who will carry the Gifts. This is usually TWO people; can be one. (Can be the same people serving as Eucharistic ministers, or someone else.)
 - Decide who will be Eucharistic Ministers. This should be TWO people that are accustomed to being cup ministers. (Can be the same people who carry the Gifts, or someone else.)

WHO SHOULD ATTEND the rehearsal:

- Bride and Groom (of course!)
- Both sets of parents/step-parents
- Grandmothers - if they are being formally seated during the "seating of the mothers" (and are able)
- ENTIRE wedding party, including flower girls and ring bearers, if you have them.
- All **three** readers
- Bearer of the Crucifix
- Bearer of the Book of the Gospels

For weddings with Communion:

- Bearers of the Gifts
- Eucharist Ministers

WHAT TO BRING to the rehearsal:

- PROGRAMS - bring ALL your programs (one goes to the church office with the paperwork)
- Unity Candle - for those who planned in advance and have included it in the printed program, please bring the candles to the rehearsal.
- For weddings that celebrate additional ethnic traditions (that have been planned with your presider and the Music Minister), please bring the items needed for your customs.
- A paper or card with both your names and your **post-wedding address TYPED**.
Your completed paperwork and the civil marriage license **along with a xerox copy for the office.**

Thank you! We will look forward to a smooth, enjoyable rehearsal and a most happy celebration of your wedding!

Cathedral Wedding Coordinators