

WEDDING REHEARSAL GUIDELINES

Welcome to the Cathedral

It is important that you and all the people involved in your wedding **EARLY** 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:

- Please decide which mothers/grandmothers/stepmothers are to be formally seated. 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 procession. (Can be one of the readers, or someone else.)
- Decide who will carry the Book of the Gospels in the procession. (Can be one of the readers, or someone else.)
- For Mass only:
 - Decide who will carry the Gifts. This is usually TWO people; may 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 chalice 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 (and are able)
- ENTIRE wedding party, including flower girls and ring bearers, if you have them
- All **three** readers
- Cross bearer
- Book bearer

For weddings WITH Communion:

- Gifts bearers
- Eucharistic Ministers

WHAT TO BRING to the rehearsal:

- PROGRAMS - bring ALL your programs (one goes to the church office with the paperwork)
- For weddings that celebrate additional ethnic traditions (that have been pre-planned with your presider and the Director of Music), please bring the items needed for your customs.
- Your completed paperwork and the **civil marriage license along with a xerox copy for the office.**

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

Your Cathedral Wedding Coordinators