

Additional Information

DEPOSIT

When reserving your date:

A \$50 non refundable deposit will be required to be made at the parish office to reserve the date for your wedding, along with the proper documents. This deposit will be applied to your total.

MUSICIANS

The couple is responsible to make choir arrangements directly with our parish choirs or outside parish choirs. The choir stipend varies and will need to be arranged directly with them. A list of contacts will be provided.

PLANNING THE CEREMONY

You will be provided a copy of the parish policies for wedding celebrations and information in regards to decoration, rehearsal, sacrament of reconciliation, etc.



Sacrament of Matrimony

St. Alexander Catholic Church
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Sacrament of Marriage

Preparation Guide



St. Alexander
Catholic Church
Cornelius, OR

El Sacramento del Matrimonio

The Catholic Church, through the Second Vatican Council, says: Through the sacrament of marriage the couple signifies and shares the mystery of the unity and faithful love between Christ and the Church. In Christian marriage the couple helps each other achieve holiness in their married life and in the education of their children.

In our Catholic Church marriage is recognized as a sacrament. This is one of the seven visible signs instituted by Christ to convey the grace of God to men and women on earth.

The sacrament of marriage is not only something that the couple receives, but something that the couple becomes. In marriage the couple commits to exemplify the love of God to his Church, thus when someone is married, this becomes a very special moment for the whole Church.

The time before marriage in the Church is a time of discernment and preparation. Preparation time allows you to identify your weaknesses and strengthen your qualities as a couple, as well as prepare the liturgy to express the commitment of faith and love that you will make.



Requirements to Marry at St. Alexander

1. **Parish Participation:** At least one party (the bride or groom) is to show some connection to St. Alexander Church.
2. **Preparation Time:** A *minimum* of six months is needed to set a date for a wedding.
3. **Required Age:** The pastor of this parish requires that those seeking matrimony be older than 18 years of age.
4. **Previous Matrimony:** If either the bride or groom have had a previous marriage either civilly or within the Church, we must first complete a process through the archdiocesan Tribunal.
5. **Fees:** The stipend for marriage preparation is:
 - ◆ \$300 parishioners
 - ◆ \$500 non parishioners

This fee helps offset costs of paperwork, material, utilities, classes/ marriage retreat, etc. All fees must be paid in full minimum one month prior to the wedding date.

- *We cannot reserve a date in our calendar before the first meeting to determine the marriage preparation process for you.*
- *Please contact us before making arrangements for your reception venue!*

Steps to begin the process...

1. **Call the Pastoral Assistant**
The bride or groom must call the office to set an appointment to begin their process to receive the Sacrament of Marriage.
2. **Recent copies of Baptismal Certificate:**
You will need to request a recent copy of your baptism certificate, with "notations", from your church of baptism. These need to be dated six months prior to the wedding date.
3. **Four Witnesses**
Two per person. The witnesses should be close family members or longtime friends who know you well.
4. **Marriage Preparation**
Marriage prep consists of a Retreat and/or classes along with Natural Family Planning Classes. Dates will be provided to you during the process.
5. **Marriage License**
If couple is civilly married, they must provide a certified copy of their Marriage Certificate. If couple is not civilly married they must obtain a valid Marriage license by the State of Oregon and bring to the office *two weeks* prior to the wedding date.

Contact Information:

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