

Marriage Guidelines for St. Thomas à Becket Parish

Congratulations! You are preparing to enter into one of the most important relationships you will ever have; a union of love and life. Here are some FAQs about preparing for marriage at our parish.

Who may be married here?

St. Thomas à Becket is a Roman Catholic Parish. As such, the church is for the exclusive use of the worshipping community. Only those who are registered members of the parish may use the church for the sacrament of marriage.

Children of active, registered parishioners who are living elsewhere must have the written permission of their current Pastor in order to be married here.

College students who are children of active parishioners will be considered members of this parish.

New parishioners should be registered and active in the parish for at least six months before marriage preparation can begin.

How far in advance should I prepare?

The Archdiocese of Montreal requires at least nine months preparation for the sacrament of marriage.

No reservations or preparations for a reception hall should be made until you have spoken with the Pastor and a date and time for your marriage has been set.

Marriages are normally scheduled for Saturdays at 1 p.m. or 3 p.m.

The Marriage Preparation Program

Once the date for the wedding has been approved and set, the actual marriage preparation begins.

There are three stages:

- 1. Preliminary marriage papers; baptismal certificates and sacramental records are required.*
- 2. Marriage Preparation Program.*
- 3. Liturgical preparation for your marriage celebration; music, scripture readings, prayers and vows.*

Sacred Moment...Sacred Music

Your marriage ceremony is a sacred moment in your lives and in the life of the church. The music for your celebration must also reflect the sacred nature of the vows you will exchange with each other.

Arrangements for music at your marriage ceremony should be made well in advance. With you, the musician will arrange suitable and beautiful music to enhance the celebration of your wedding.

Further points to consider

Any plans for decorating the church to enhance the beauty of your celebration should be discussed early with the Pastor.

Wedding Fee: A flat rate of \$500.00 is suggested, payable on or before the wedding rehearsal; however we understand that every couple is in a different financial situation and alternate payment arrangements can be made depending on the circumstances.

Please note that no flower petals, rice or confetti should be thrown in the church or anywhere on the church grounds.

To make arrangements for your marriage celebration at our parish please call the office at 514-626-4111.

We will be happy to help you with any other questions or concerns you may have.