

St. Roch Wedding Planner

Planning Your Marriage Liturgy

The Christian marriage liturgy is, at its essence, a prayer, and the church is the unique place where we encounter God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Everything that is sung, said, or done in the church should reflect the prayerfulness of the celebration and demonstrate reverence for the sacramental presence of Christ.

The marriage liturgy may be celebrated with or without Mass. If either the bride or groom is non-Catholic, or if many of your guests are non-Catholic we would encourage you to celebrate the simple form of the Rite of Marriage. The simple rite of marriage includes the following parts:

- Processional
- Greeting & Opening Prayer
- Old Testament Reading
- Responsorial Psalm
- New Testament Reading
- Gospel Acclamation
- Gospel Reading
- Homily
- Exchange of Vows
- Blessing & Exchange of Rings
- Prayer of the Faithful
- Lord's Prayer
- Nuptial Blessing
- Final Blessing
- Recessional

The length of the simple rite of marriage is approximately 30 minutes. Only Christian songs and instrumental music appropriate for Catholic liturgy will be permitted during the ceremony. Your music selections are generally limited to the Processional, and the Recessional. Music for the Responsorial Psalm and the Gospel Acclamation are available from the parish office to give to your musician.

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Below Is Other Information You May Find Useful

Rehearsal: A rehearsal may be scheduled Monday through Thursday between 10:00am-4:00pm. The rehearsal usually lasts about an hour. Please come prepared with the State of Hawai'i marriage license and the completed *Wedding Planner Worksheet*. The following services are the couple's responsibility unless you choose to hire your own full service wedding coordinator.

Music: You are responsible for hiring any musicians for your ceremony. Please see the note above regarding appropriate music and your selections.

Flowers: Both churches are usually decorated with fresh, tropical arrangements throughout the year, except Lent. These should not be moved. You are welcome to add flower arrangements (except during Lent) provided they do not obstruct the view of the altar, ambo (reading stand), and the presider's chair. No flower petals, rice, birdseed, or confetti may be thrown inside or outside the church.

Church Furnishings: The altar, ambo, and presider's chair are symbols of God's abiding presence with his people and are not to be moved. Additional decorations should not be taped, nailed, or tacked to the walls or pews, and must be removed following the ceremony.

Photography: We understand your desire to preserve the wedding on film and videotape. Photographers and videographers are welcome to take pictures during the liturgy as long as no one enters the sanctuary, and the movement of the participants is not impeded. Videographers and photographers should check with the priest or the parish coordinator prior to the start of the ceremony.

Food and Beverages: Neither is allowed in the church. Beverages are not allowed on the entire church premises.

Dressing & Parking Facilities: Unfortunately, we do not have changing rooms at either church. We suggest the couple come to the church dressed for the ceremony. Restroom facilities are available. There is plenty of parking at both churches.

Bringing Your Own Priest: If you wish to have another priest, who resides outside of Hawai'i, to preside at your marriage, it is necessary that additional information be sent to obtain a marriage license from the State of Hawai'i. There are also additional requirements for the Diocese of Honolulu. Our office and the Diocese of Honolulu will need to receive copies of his license and paperwork several weeks before the wedding date.