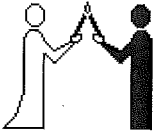
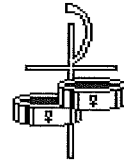


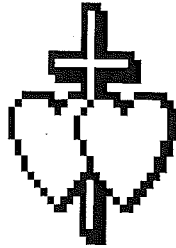
ST. EDWARD THE CONFESSOR MARRIAGE POLICY



“At the beginning of creation, God made them male and female; for this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and the two shall become as one. They are no longer two but one flesh. Therefore, let no man separate what God has joined together.”



In these words, St. Mark summarizes the teachings of Jesus concerning marriage. Jesus not only insisted that the original design of His heavenly Father for marriage be preserved, but He sanctified marriage for His followers by giving them the Sacrament of Matrimony. The love of man and woman is made holy in Christian marriage. St. Paul tells us that the love of a Christian husband and wife reflects the love of Christ for the Church. Christian marriage has an added dimension, the sharing of the supernatural life which is first received in Baptism.

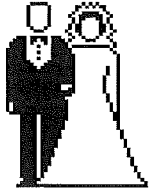


The Church has consistently taught that marriage is a personal relationship involving a life long commitment to a shared life that is both intimate and faithful. A relationship lacking these qualities is not considered a true marriage. But once a true sacramental marriage has been established, only death can sever the marriage bond. It should be noted that annulments granted by the Church do not terminate true and binding marriages, but rather declare that marriages presumed to be valid were never true and binding due to some impediment that existed from the beginning of the union.

In accordance with the aforementioned teaching of the Church and in support of the marriage preparation policy currently in effect in the Catholic Dioceses of Louisiana, St. Edward the Confessor Parish issues the following policy for marriage preparation and enrichment.

Preparations should begin six to twelve months before the wedding. A couple desiring to marry must fill out an application for marriage at least six months in advance of the wedding day. Exceptions to the waiting period of six months will be made only for serious reason. Reserving a date and time for the wedding on the parish's calendar does not automatically assure the couple's readiness for sacramental marriage. Definitive wedding plans should not be made and contracts entered into until this determination of readiness is made by the priest/deacon which is usually after the discussion of the pre-marital inventory (FOCCUS).

After your application is received, one of the priests or deacons will call you to arrange an interview. The marriage preparation program will consist of interviews with the priest or deacon, the administering of a pre-marital inventory (FOCCUS); the attendance of St. Edward the Confessor's Evenings for the Engaged/Sponsor Couple Program, which takes place in a married couple's home in our parish; a planning session for the wedding ceremony, and finally, the wedding rehearsal. The cost of the materials for the Sponsor Couple Program is \$30.00 and must be paid to the Priest/Deacon at the first meeting.



At least one party must profess the Catholic religion. Profession of faith implies some practice of religion such as prayer, attendance at Mass and reception of the sacraments. Since Christian marriage is a sacrament, it

is the responsibility of the priest or deacon to ascertain that the parties are properly disposed to receive a sacrament.

Marriage of a Catholic to a non-Catholic is permitted by the church with proper dispensation. In order to obtain the dispensation, the Catholic party is required to promise that he or she will continue living his or her faith in the Catholic church and will do all in his or her power to have the children baptized and reared as Catholics. The mixed-religion marriage ceremony may not be held within the Mass.

Pre-marital pregnancy is not of itself sufficient reason for marriage. An assessment will be made as to the intention to marry prior to pregnancy and the current circumstances of the couple before a decision is made to perform the ceremony. In any event, a marriage will not be performed without thorough preparation.

If a couple attempts marriage contrary to the laws of the church before a judge or non-Catholic minister, validation of the marriage is permitted only after proper preparation and a period of at least six months elapsing since the marriage outside of the church.

The Synod determines that the following fees apply for weddings:

For a parishioner	\$200.00
For a non-parishioner	\$400.00
Validation of Marriage	\$100.00

A deposit of half of the fee due must be paid at the time the church is booked. The balance is due at least one month before the wedding.

A monetary gift to the priest or deacon is appreciated. Altar servers should be compensated (\$5 - \$10 each is appropriate).

At the time of your request for a marriage, you should receive an application for Marriage which must be completed & returned to St. Edward in order to begin the marriage process.



Arrangements for music/singers should be made directly through Paul Boquet (344-9094), the Music Director for the parish, and any fees charged by them are in addition to the church fees and should be paid directly to them.

ST. EDWARD THE CONFESSOR Application for MARRIAGE

REQUESTED Day/DATE:

REQUESTED TIME:

FOR Office Use Only:

DATE RECEIVED: _____

PASTOR'S Approval for PROCESSING: _____

DATE COUPLE FIRST CONTACTED: _____

DATE ENTERED IN _____

CHURCH BOOK/CALENDAR: _____

PREPARATION By: _____

OFFICIANT: _____



GROOM

NAME: _____

TELEPHONE (H): _____ (W): _____

Address: _____

DATE OF BIRTH: _____

Religion: _____

Church of Baptism: _____

OCCUPATION: _____

EDUCATION: _____

FATHER'S NAME: _____

MOTHER'S MAIDEN NAME: _____

HAVE YOU EVER BEEN MARRIED BEFORE? _____

HOW LONG HAVE YOU KNOWN YOUR FIANCEE'? _____

Why do you wish to be married in the Catholic Church?

ARE YOU FULLY PRACTICING THE CATHOLIC FAITH? THAT IS, DO YOU ATTEND MASS REGULARLY AND FREQUENT THE SACRAMENT OF PENANCE AND EUCHARIST. If NOT, why NOT?

Bride

NAME: _____

TELEPHONE (H): _____ (W): _____

Address: _____

DATE OF BIRTH: _____

Religion: _____

Church of Baptism: _____

OCCUPATION: _____

EDUCATION: _____

FATHER'S NAME: _____

MOTHER'S MAIDEN NAME: _____

HAVE YOU EVER BEEN MARRIED BEFORE? _____

HOW LONG HAVE YOU KNOWN YOUR FIANCEE'? _____

Why do you wish to be married in the Catholic Church?

ARE YOU FULLY PRACTICING THE CATHOLIC FAITH? THAT IS, DO YOU ATTEND MASS REGULARLY AND FREQUENT THE SACRAMENT OF PENANCE AND EUCHARIST. If NOT, why NOT?



ST. EDWARD THE CONFESSOR WEDDING MUSIC POLICY

All music for weddings at St. Edward the Confessor Church must be coordinated through Paul Boquet, the Director of Music for the parish. Please remember that your music selections must be sacred according to liturgical guidelines of the Church. The parish organist should be the musician employed for the wedding unless other arrangements are made with the Parish Music Director. If the parties to the wedding desire some other form of music or singing, this should be discussed with the Music Director. A list of qualified vocalists from the parish is listed below. Paul Boquet can be contacted at 344-9094.

RECOMMENDED VOCALISTS FROM St. Edward:

LAUREN ADAMS	908-9158
DAWN ODDO	887-5068
Shelly MOORE	757-4032
PAUL BOQUET	344-9094

All payments for these services must be paid directly to the organist and/or vocalist two weeks prior to the date of the wedding.



REVISED 8/6/2015



ST. EDWARD THE CONFESSOR CHURCH

WEDDING AGREEMENT & GUIDELINES



1. THE PROPER CHURCH FOR MARRIAGE OF ST. EDWARD PARISHIONERS IS ST. EDWARD. WHEN THE GROOM IS A ST. EDWARD PARISHIONER AND THE BRIDE IS A PARISHIONER ELSEWHERE, PERMISSION OF HER PASTOR MUST BE OBTAINED IN WRITING.
2. A COUPLE MUST TURN IN THEIR APPLICATION AND SIGNED AGREEMENT AT LEAST SIX (6) MONTHS BEFORE THE PROPOSED DATE OF THE WEDDING. THE PRIEST/DEACON WILL THEN CALL AND SCHEDULE AN APPOINTMENT WITH THEM. DEFINITIVE WEDDING PLANS SHOULD NOT BE MADE AND CONTRACTS ENTERED INTO UNTIL DETERMINATION OF THE COUPLE'S READINESS FOR MARRIAGE IS MADE BY THE PRIEST/DEACON, WHICH IS USUALLY AFTER THE DISCUSSION OF THE PRE-MARITAL INVENTORY (FOCCUS). THE PRIEST/DEACON IS RESPONSIBLE FOR ALL PAPERWORK REQUIRED, E.G., DISPENSATIONS, THE PRE-NUPTIAL QUESTIONNAIRE, AND INTERVIEWS. HE IS FURTHERMORE EXPECTED TO OBSERVE THE PROTOCOL OF THE PARISH.
3. IF A COUPLE WISHES A PRIEST/DEACON FROM OUTSIDE ST. EDWARD PARISH TO OFFICIATE, THE PRIEST/DEACON IS TO WRITE THE PARISH FOR AUTHORIZATION, STATING THAT HE IS COMMITTED TO THE TIME OF THE REHEARSAL, THE MARRIAGE ITSELF, ALL PERTINENT PAPERS AND INSTRUCTIONS, AND THE PARISH PROTOCOL (cf. #1).
4. EACH COUPLE IS REQUIRED TO ATTEND A MARRIAGE PREPARATION PROGRAM APPROVED BY THE ARCHDIOCESE. INFORMATION ABOUT SUCH PROGRAMS IS TO BE OBTAINED FROM THE PRIEST/DEACON WHO WILL OFFICIATE.
5. IN THE WEDDING CEREMONIES, THERE WILL BE NO DEPARTURES FROM THE LITURGICAL NORMS OF THE ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH NOR THE ROMAN RITUAL/SACRAMENTARY. APPROVED OPTIONS WITHIN THE RITUAL/SACRAMENTARY AND LITURGICAL NORMS ARE WELCOME. CHRISTIAN MODESTY IN DRESS, ESPECIALLY THE BRIDAL PARTY, IS ALWAYS THE PROPER ATTIRE FOR CHURCH.
6. ALL MUSIC/VOCAL ARRANGEMENTS ARE TO BE CLEARED WITH THE MUSIC DIRECTOR. THE PARISH ORGANIST SHOULD BE THE MUSICIAN FOR THE WEDDING UNLESS OTHER ARRANGEMENTS ARE MADE WITH THE PARISH MUSIC DIRECTOR. THE ORGANIST'S STIPEND IS ALSO TO BE NEGOTIATED WITH THE ORGANIST AND GIVEN/SENT DIRECTLY TO HIM/HER. THE MUSIC DIRECTOR WILL HAVE THE AUTHORITY TO APPROVE OR DECLINE THE MUSIC YOU SELECT FOR THE WEDDING. UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCES IS AN ORGANIST TO ASSUME ACCESS TO THE ORGAN WITHOUT THE AUTHORIZATION OF THE MUSIC DIRECTOR.
7. VIDEO CAMERAS ARE ALLOWED BUT LIGHTS ARE NOT PERMITTED. PHOTOGRAPHERS SHOULD NOT INTERFERE WITH THE CELEBRANT OR LITURGY BY MOVING IN THE IMMEDIATE AREA OF THE SANCTUARY.

8. ARRANGEMENTS FOR FLOWERS ARE AT THE COUPLE'S EXPENSE. THE FLORIST CAN SET UP FOR A FRIDAY EVENING WEDDING AFTER THE 6:00 PM MASS (6:45 PM). FOR SATURDAY MORNING WEDDINGS, AFTER THE 8:30 AM MASS (9:15 AM) AND FOR SATURDAY EVENING WEDDINGS, AFTER THE 4:00PM MASS (5:15 PM). DURING THE CHRISTMAS SEASON AND THE WEEK FOLLOWING EASTER, THE POINSETTIAS/EASTER LILIES WILL NOT BE MOVED FROM THE ALTAR, BUT ADDITIONAL FLOWERS MAY BE ADDED FOR THE WEDDING.

9. IF CANDLES ARE USED, ONLY CANDLES ENCLOSED IN DRIP PROOF GLOBES MAY BE ALLOWED. IF A UNITY CANDLE IS USED, PLACE THE CARPET (AVAILABLE IN THE CHOIR AREA) UNDERNEATH THE STAND. NO TAPE OR TACKS ARE TO BE USED ON THE PEWS TO SECURE BOWS OR FLOWERS. CENTER AISLE RUNNERS SHOULD BE SECURED WITH PINS, NOT TAPE.

10. IF A PRIEST OR DEACON FROM ANOTHER PARISH OR INSTITUTION WILL OFFICIATE AT THE WEDDING, ALL PAPERS MUST BE COMPLETED AND IN THE HANDS OF THE SECRETARY AT ST. EDWARD CHURCH AT LEAST TWO (2) WEEKS BEFORE THE WEDDING.

11. METAL KNEELERS ARE USED FOR THE BRIDE AND GROOM AND FOR THE BEST MAN AND MAID OF HONOR.

12. NO CHANGES TO THE SANCTUARY SHOULD BE MADE WITHOUT PRIOR APPROVAL OF THE PASTOR/LITURGY COMMITTEE.

13. NO RICE, BIRDSEED, ETC. CAN BE THROWN INSIDE OR OUTSIDE OF THE CHURCH.

14. THE DAY, DATE AND TIME OF REHEARSAL SHOULD BE SUPPLIED ABOUT FOUR MONTHS BEFORE THE WEDDING. PLEASE CALL THE OFFICE.

WE HAVE READ THESE INSTRUCTIONS AND AGREE TO ABIDE BY THEM.

(Bride)

(GROOM)

DATE _____