

Weddings at Christ the King

Congratulations on your engagement! Your wedding is a wonderful, life-changing celebration, and your marriage is a holy vocation. Both deserve the utmost care and preparation. Our intention is to guide you through the process as smoothly as possible. Christ the King Church is available for Catholic weddings (Mass or non-Mass) with priority given to members of the parish and their children. If you or your affianced are not Catholic and wish to become Catholic or learn more about the Faith, please contact our Religious Education Office at 843-4766.

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Contacts

Parish Office: 842-1481

Fr. Rick Stansberry, Pastor

Parish Fax: 843-0539

Church Decor:

Joanie Holmboe (848-2803)

Marriage Preparation:

Rick & Toby Boothe (524-9618)

Music:

Edwin Day, Dir. Music (848-8397)

Nursery Coordinator:

Jeanne Green (802-3098)

Reception Coordinator:

Jayne Clarke (242-4511)

Rehearsal & Ceremony Coordinator:

Stacy Whitmarsh (749-1365)

Religious Education:

Jenni Butch (843-4766)

Scheduling:

Kelly Fanning (242-4516)

Scheduling

A minimum of six months preparation is required for all Catholic weddings taking place in the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City.

Weddings at Christ the King may be scheduled for Friday evening (except during Lent, which begins Ash Wednesday and continues through the Holy Week Triduum), Saturday between 11 am and 1 pm or Saturday evening at 7:30 pm.

Wedding rehearsals take place the evening before the wedding ceremony, beginning from 5:30-7pm and lasting between 45 minutes and 1 hour and 15 minutes (depending upon wedding party size and punctuality). Rehearsals during Lent take place on Thursday either be-

fore or after the evening Mass.

Non-parishioner weddings will be scheduled no earlier than six months prior to the date of the wedding to accommodate the priority given to parishioner weddings.

In order to schedule your wedding, contact scheduling coordinator Kelly Fanning to check for facility availability; however, your date is not secure until you contact the Pastor. Once the Pastor has approved the date, you must let the scheduling coordinator know to confirm the date for the calendar.

Once your wedding is scheduled, you should make an appointment with the pastor to begin the preparation process.



Preparation

At your initial meeting with the pastor, you will complete the *Prepare Inventory*, a 150-item questionnaire designed to help identify areas of strength and opportunities for growth in your relationship. The completed questionnaires are summarized for review at a subsequent meeting by the couple and the pastor.

The remainder of your marriage preparation will be facilitated by Rick and Toby Boothe, coordinators of Christ the King's marriage preparation ministry.

Marriage preparation is your opportunity to spend time focusing on the issues that will most likely have a major impact on your lifetime relationship with each other, and there are several options available to you.

Marriage Preparation Retreat

Marriage preparation retreat begins on Friday evening, concluding on Sunday afternoon, and is usually offered

at least twice each year. A maximum of twelve couples meet with Rick and Toby Boothe on-site at Christ the King.

Sponsor Couple

A sponsor couple may be assigned to meet with you, usually at the sponsor couple's home, 4-8 times over the course of several weeks. Both the retreat and sponsor couple options make use of the *For Better and Forever* workbook.

Non-parishioners who wish to take advantage of the marriage preparation program at Christ the King will be charged \$50 for the materials and refreshments provided. There is no charge to Christ the King parishioners.

Archdiocesan Programs

If unusual circumstances make a marriage preparation retreat or working with a sponsor couple impossible, other options are available through the Archdiocese. Contact the Booshes for more details.

Wedding Music

Edwin Day, Director of Music, is responsible for overseeing the selection of music for all weddings at Christ the King. He will help you choose the music for your wedding as well as arrange for any additional musicians you may need.

Mr. Day serves as the organist for all weddings at Christ the King and is responsible for insuring that all music you choose is appropriate and in keeping with the highly traditional nature of the sacred liturgies at Christ the King. There are many fine pieces of classical music and hymns that are appropriate for your special celebration; however, mainstream "pop music" is not appropriate for any sacred liturgy celebrat-

ing the Sacrament of Holy Matrimony. No pre-recorded music (such as CDs or cassette tapes) is permitted in the church before, during or after the ceremony.

An appointment to consult with Mr. Day concerning the music at your wedding should be made at least one month prior to the wedding date. At this consultation Mr. Day will play several selections of wedding-appropriate music on the organ. Before leaving the consultation you will be given a list of the music, composers and other pertinent information for your wedding program.

If you are having a wedding Mass, Mr. Day will arrange for a cantor from Christ the King to sing at your wedding.

If you have a friend or relative who will be singing, they should sing appropriate solos before and during the ceremony. The music they sing must be approved by the Director of Music at least one month prior to the date of the wedding.



Church Decor



Joanie Holmboe coordinates the flowers at Christ the King Church and is available to advise you regarding the number and size of floral arrangements appropriate for the church interior. Flowers must be real and must be delivered by your florist before noon on Saturday (for a Saturday evening wedding) and be left in the church after the ceremony (except during Lent, when flowers are not permitted in the church during liturgies).

In the case of a wedding during Lent, the flowers must be placed in the church prior to the wedding and re-

moved immediately afterward. During Lent, the crucifix and the statues in the church and vestibule are shrouded in purple cloths. These shrouds must remain in place at all times and are not permitted to be removed during the wedding ceremony.

Aisle cloths and candelabra are not permitted anywhere in the church. No petals (real or artificial) are permitted to be strewn in the church.

In the case of a Saturday evening wedding, the church is available for decoration immediately following the 5 pm Mass.

Liturgical Ministers

All weddings at Christ the King involve liturgical music (our organist and a cantor), a lector (or scripture reader) and altar servers. When the matrimonial liturgy is a Mass, three altar servers are preferred, and two gift bearers will be needed to bring the offertory gifts to the altar. Weddings outside Mass do not require altar servers, but the assistance of one or two altar servers is in keeping with the sacred nature of the liturgy. Most people who are marrying in the Catholic church have some history with the Faith and therefore have access to people who can serve in

these capacities. The lector and ushers at a wedding need not have experience in these roles, but the altar servers should be trained and already in service at Christ the King or another parish. If you need assistance in securing altar servers, please contact the parish office. Other people in the wedding party who are not considered liturgical ministers but enhance the ceremony include a flower girl, ring bearer, bride's maids and groomsmen. These people will be selected by the couple from their friends and family.



Rehearsal

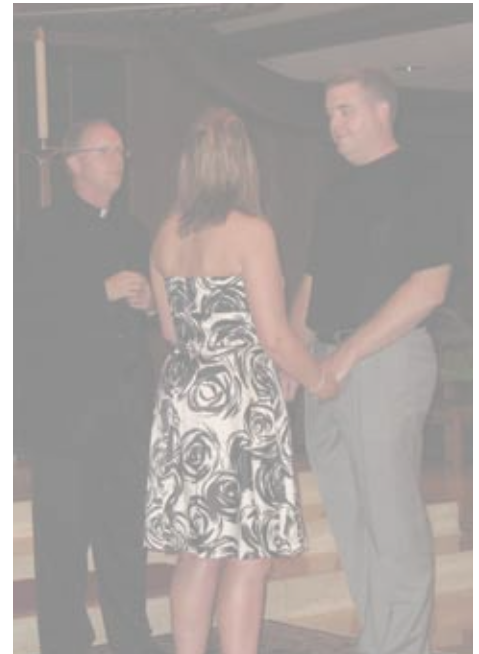
Christ the King Wedding Coordinator Stacy Whitmarsh will be able to answer most of your questions regarding the wedding ceremony. She will be in attendance during the rehearsal and the wedding, coordinating your processional and family seating, church decor, payment distribution and any other special arrangements you might have. Mrs. Whitmarsh does not usually meet in person with couples prior to the wedding rehearsal, but she does require contact with the bride and groom the week of the wedding. It is especially important that out-of-town couples provide Christ the King with local contact information.

The rehearsal is structured so that the wedding party can walk through the ceremony at least once. Ushers and anyone involved in family seating can come to the rehearsal. The priest and wedding coordinator will give you cues and answer any last-minute questions.

The bride will need to bring with her to the rehearsal:

- guest book and pen
- programs
- fees in labeled envelopes
- marriage license
- unity candles and holders (if used)

Wedding day arrival and rooms for getting ready will be discussed at the rehearsal.



Ceremony

It is preferred that your wedding ceremony be a Mass, however, you do have the option to marry outside of Mass. Some couples choose not to have a Mass when the family of one of the parties is non-Catholic, however, we make a great effort to conduct a Catholic Mass which is as inclusive for non-Catholics as possible.

A wedding Mass usually lasts about 45 minutes, depending on the size of the congregation. A non-Mass wedding usually lasts about 25 minutes. All weddings at Christ the King incorporate the Liturgy of the Word (readings from the Old and New Testaments and from the Gospel) and the Marriage Ceremony (the exchange of vows and the blessing and exchange of rings). At a wed-

ding Mass, the Liturgy of the Eucharist (presentation of the gifts, consecration and distribution of Holy Communion) follows the Marriage Ceremony.

Aside from your choices of readings and music, you may personalize your wedding ceremony, if you choose, by lighting a unity candle, presenting roses to the mothers of the bride and groom, presenting a bouquet to the statue of the Blessed Virgin Mary and customizing the intercessory prayers. You are responsible for providing any needed flowers and the unity candle and holder.

No photography or videography is permitted from the altar area. All photography and videography must take place from outside the communion rail.



Reception

Wedding receptions may take place in the upper level Atrium and Mayfield Foyer of Christ the King. Our facility can accommodate approximately 300-350 guests. Cleaning and set-up fees will apply and are outlined in the Christ the King Facility Use Guidelines. Rental charges may apply. A deposit of \$300 is required to hold the date for your reception and will be refunded in whole if we are notified at least 30 days in advance of your cancellation. Decorating guidelines and other information will be given to you by the Reception Coordinator, Jayne Clarke. A contract for the use of our facility is required and should be completed with Ms. Clarke approximately a month prior to the date of your reception.

All events at Christ the King must conclude no later than

Midnight, and additional fees are incurred for events that take place on public holidays.

The facility is opened at 9 am on Saturdays for decorating and other wedding preparations, but special arrangements may be made for earlier access or access the day before, schedules permitting.

Alcohol is permitted at receptions (but limited to adults only), however, smoking is prohibited and will result in the forfeiture of all deposits. All decorations must take safe entrance and egress into account (e.g. lattice-work is not permitted across entrances), and open flames are discouraged where hanging decorations are used. Christ the King does not provide decorations, tablecloths or dinnerware.

Wedding Costs

Pastor stipend: \$250
Wedding Coordinator: \$200
Organist Fee: \$300 (\$225 for a non-Mass ceremony)
Cantor fee: \$100
Server stipend: \$10-\$20 per altar server (suggested)
Church stipend (non-parishioner): \$1000

*N.B. - Outside soloists and instrumentalists have their own fees, which may vary significantly.
N.B. - The use of outside wedding coordinators for your ceremony is not permitted at Christ the King.*

Reception Costs

Costs associated with having your wedding reception at Christ the King:

Non-parishioner facility use fee: \$500 (non-refundable)

Reception security deposit: \$300*

**Reception clean-up and set-up fees vary depending on the number of guests and will be billed approximately two weeks after the event. If such fees amount to less than the security deposit, a refund will be issued.*

Checklist and Notes

6-12 months prior to wedding:

schedule wedding with Pastor
 meet with Pastor
 arrange for marriage preparation

2-4 months prior to wedding:

choose music with organist
 choose readings
 complete reception contract

1 week prior to wedding:

contact coordinator
 confirm reception arrangements
 arrange for stipends

Christ the King Catholic Church P.O. Box 20508 Oklahoma City, OK 73156 www.ckokc.org	Postage
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