

St. Helen Catholic Church Wedding Agreement

Thank you for selecting St. Helens for your wedding. The Sacrament of Marriage is a sacred and solemn ceremony. Before any wedding ceremony is scheduled at St. Helen Catholic Church, we ask that both, the prospective bride and groom, agree to the following. Both parties need to initial each paragraph and sign the agreement before scheduling the ceremony.

- _____ 1. We'll provide all required documentation to the Marriage Office staff by the due date on the checklist.
- _____ 2. We understand that the Sacrament of Marriage is a sacred ceremony. The nature of the ceremony requires that the dresses worn by the bride and her attendants/bridesmaids be of modest nature. We'll use good judgment when choosing attires. If we have questions regarding the appropriateness of the bride's or attendant's dresses, we'll contact the Marriage and Family Life Office staff.



Shawl needed



Shawl needed



Shawl needed



No shawl necessary



No shawl necessary



No shawl necessary

- _____ 3. We understand that music needs to be selected at least 6 weeks prior to the wedding date and the fees to musicians are negotiated by and paid directly to the musicians. Recorded or taped music is not permitted.
- _____ 4. We'll give the donation, \$400.00 donation for our parishioners and \$800.00 for non-parishioners, to the St. Helen's Finance Coordinator at least 60 days prior to the rehearsal.
- _____ 5. We'll give the Marriage License to the Marriage and Family Life Office staff **at least one week** prior to the wedding. (The reason for this is that Marriage Licenses in Texas become valid until 72 hours after they are issued and expired after 89 days. The ceremony only can take place if we have a valid marriage license).
- _____ 6. We understand that "Programs/Worship Aids" prepared for use at the wedding ceremony need to be submitted 1 (one) month in advance to the Marriage and Family Life Office staff.
- _____ 7. We understand that the rehearsal is for those involved directly in the wedding (i.e. bride, groom, bridesmaids, groomsmen, lectors, parents, sponsors). We'll arrive on time to the rehearsal (if any) and wedding to avoid schedule conflicts with any other activity and ceremony schedule at St. Helens. We understand that if the groom, bride, or anybody else is late, the rehearsal or ceremony will start without them.
- _____ 8. We understand that the "Bride's Room" is large enough to accommodate the bride and a reasonable amount of attendants/bridesmaids. All articles (including make-up bags, hair dryers, etc.) in the bride's room will be **removed after the ceremony.**
- _____ 9. We understand that the wedding party is responsible to ensure that the Church is left in the same condition as when the ceremony began. Altar decorations may not be removed, including Altar flower arrangements already reserved for the weekend, Easter lilies, and Christmas Poinsettias. All trash, flower petals, boxes, programs, etc., will be removed. The condition of the church will be returned to normal. The person we have assigned to help us with this task is: _____
- _____ 10. We understand that food, gum, or beverage (other than water) need to be consumed outside the church only. We and our guests will avoid consuming alcohol on St. Helens campus.

- _____ 11. We understand that the Sacrament of Marriage is between Bride and Groom, therefore, we will be the only ones in direct communication with St. Helen's Priests and Staff. We will communicate this information to our wedding planner and parents.
- _____ 12. We will notify our photographer and videographer that the use of flash will be avoid during the ceremony.
- _____ 13. We understand that a unity candle may be blessed by a Priest or Deacon but if we would like to light the candle, it will be done at our reception venue.
- _____ 14. If we have Flower girls, we will ask them to use flower bouquet instead of flower petals.
- _____ 15. We understand that if a St. Helen staff member is present the day of the wedding, she/he is there to help the presider.

We happily agree to the statements stated above.

Printed name of the Bride

Printed name of the Groom

Date

Signature of the Bride

Signature of the Groom

Date