

Dear Friends:

Congratulations!

Our Lady of Victory Parish rejoices in your plans to enter into the Sacrament of Marriage. This booklet is designed to guide you through the church preparations for the reception of this Sacrament at Our Lady of Victory Church. We hope that you find it helpful.

At Our Lady of Victory, we are here to help you in any possible way.

May God Bless you as you begin to plan your married lives together.

*The Priests, Deacon, and Staff
of Our Lady of Victory Parish*





Marriage—
Two
Shall
Become
One

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WEDDING FEES



For Parishioners:

Church	\$ 500
Cantor	\$ 150
Organist	\$ 150
Total	<u>\$ 800</u>

Outside Parish:

Church	\$ 750
Cantor	\$ 150
Organist	\$ 150
Total	<u>\$1050</u>

Outside parish is defined as an individual or family who is not currently registered in the parish.

Individual checks will be needed for church, organist and cantor. You may contact the Rectory Office for further instructions.



**OUR LADY OF VICTORY CHURCH
2 FLORAL PARKWAY
FLORAL PARK, NY 11001
516-354-0482
fax: 516-354-7450**

WEBSITE: www.olvfpny.org

**Rev. Thomas M. Fusco, Pastor
Rev. Christopher Sullivan,
Associate Pastor
Deacon Lawrence P. Mulligan**

AFTER YOU BECOME ENGAGED



1. Upon the announcement of your engagement, and at least six months prior to the desired wedding date, call the Rectory to make an appointment with a priest or deacon. Both the bride and the groom must attend this meeting to set the date for your wedding.
2. When you meet with the priest or deacon, who represents the community, he will conduct the required interview and complete the paperwork. This is to assure that you are both free to marry in the Catholic Church.
3. Should there be obstacles or special circumstances, the priest or deacon will advise you of the next step to be taken.
4. If there are no obstacles to the marriage in the Catholic Church, a date and time for the wedding may be set.
Wedding times are: Saturdays at 10:30 am, 12 noon and 2:00 pm. Sunday afternoon weddings are scheduled at 3:30 pm. Weddings may also be scheduled on Fridays.

INTERFAITH MARRIAGES



An interfaith marriage is a marriage between a Catholic and non-Catholic. This requires permission and/or a dispensation from our Bishop. Your priest or deacon will fill out the necessary forms for you at the first appointment.

The Catholic partner must promise to continue to practice the faith and to the best of his/her ability to have any children born into this marriage baptized and raised as Catholics.

The minister of the non-Catholic partner is welcome to be present and take part in the Catholic Rite of Marriage here at the church of Our Lady of Victory. Other options for the ceremony can be discussed with the priest or deacon when you meet with him.

LOVE ONE ANOTHER

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MUSIC



Music at your wedding should be an expression of the joy of the entire Christian community as you express your love and commitment in the Sacrament of Marriage. Our Lady of Victory follows the music regulations for weddings set by the Bishop's Liturgy Office. The following criteria must be used to evaluate any piece of music for wedding celebrations at Our Lady of Victory.

1. Liturgical Judgment

The music chosen for your wedding should be religious music that supports the meaning of the Sacrament. The Catholic celebration of the Sacrament of Marriage focuses on the love between Christ and the couple as well as between Christ and the larger church. Secular music that does not explicitly express such a relationship cannot be used during the ceremony.

2. Pastoral Judgment

All music selections must be reviewed by our parish Music Director to determine if they fit all the criteria set forth above. Please be sure to allow enough time to make and discuss your music selections with our director.

SPIRITUAL PREPARATION



Entering into the Sacrament of Matrimony is a sacred and serious undertaking. The Marital Union was instituted by God. The married couple has a unique role in society; to build "the domestic church" as witnesses to the relationship of their lives together that is modeled on the love and fidelity between God and His people and between Christ and His Church.

The following are some suggestions about how spirituality can be evident in your lives:

1. We encourage all couples to spend time together in prayer; particularly by joining our community at Our Lady of Victory at Mass each Sunday. In addition, it is recommended that you celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation/Confession regularly, and particularly prior to your wedding.
2. It is hoped that all people preparing for marriage in the Catholic community have received all of their Sacraments. If you have not received Holy Communion and/or Confirmation, your priest or deacon will be happy to assist you in receiving these Sacraments prior to your wedding, if you choose to. It is not required for the wedding to take place, but strongly recommended.

PAPERWORK



As soon as possible please provide the applicable paperwork to the rectory office.

1. A Recently Issued Baptismal Certificate

You may not use a photocopy of an old certificate. If you were baptized at Our Lady of Victory you do not need this new certificate. By writing to the church where you were baptized with your full name, date of birth, father's name, mother's maiden name, and a self addressed stamped envelope this can be easily done.

2. Documents From Another Parish

If neither the bride nor the groom are parishioners at OLV Parish, one must obtain a letter from their home parish granting permission for the wedding to take place at Our Lady of Victory.

3. Affidavits of Freedom to Marry

Individuals from other religions must complete the freedom to marry form that will be provided by Our Lady of Victory.

Persons under 21 at the time of their marriage should discuss this with the priest or deacon at their initial meeting.

PRE-CANA PREPARATION

You will be asked to attend Pre-Cana, a series of classes for couples planning to celebrate the Sacrament of Matrimony. Each couple must attend one of the three programs available. Pre-Cana programs should be attended as early as possible in your preparations.

1. Our Lady of Victory Marriage Preparation Program

In this evening program, which consists of six sessions, married couples from the parish share their hospitality and experiences with four or five engaged couples in their home. The first and last sessions are held at the Church. The married couples facilitate discussions on communications, morality, sexuality, and spirituality.

2. Diocesan Pre-Cana Program

This program takes place in a large group setting various locations on Long Island. Registration and scheduling information can be found on the diocesan website: www.drvc.org. Go to the Worship/Sacraments link and then to Marriage. Information about FOCCUS, an online questionnaire, can also be obtained on that website. FOCCUS is required in the Diocesan Program.

3. Engaged Encounter Weekend

This program involves a full weekend where each couple can concentrate exclusively on one another. Information can be obtained at www.engagedencounterli.org

WEDDING REHEARSAL



Rehearsal Dates and Times

Please call the rectory office to set up a rehearsal date and time. Your wedding party, as well as anyone participating in the wedding ceremony as readers are encouraged to attend the rehearsal. The Blessed Sacrament is always present in church, therefore, everyone is expected to dress and behave appropriately.

Punctuality

Please encourage your wedding party to be on time for the rehearsal. Being late becomes a problem when another event is scheduled in the church after your rehearsal.

New York State Marriage License

The civil license is required by New York State for you to be married. This license may be obtained at any Town Hall or any City Clerk's Office in New York State. It is not valid for the first 24 hrs. So, you must get your license more than one day before the wedding and no more than 60 days before your wedding.

Confessions

The Sacrament of Reconciliation is offered at OLV on every Saturday between 3:00 pm and 3:45 pm. You, your family and your wedding party are encouraged to go to confession at that time.

PLANNING THE WEDDING



Mass or Ceremony

Weddings can take place within the context of a Nuptial Mass or at a Nuptial Ceremony. The Nuptial Mass includes a Liturgy of the Eucharist with the distribution of Holy Communion, the Ceremony does not.

Planning the Mass or Ceremony

A helpful book called "Together for Life" will be provided to help you. You can select the readings and prayers for your wedding from this book.

Guest Celebrants

Any Roman Catholic priest or deacon who enjoys the proper diocesan faculties is welcome to officiate at a marriage at Our Lady of Victory Church. Please inform the priest or deacon who is taking care of arrangements if you plan on inviting a guest celebrant. Ask your guest celebrant to write to the pastor of OLV for proper delegation to perform your wedding. (He will know what he needs to do.)

PLANNING THE WEDDING (*continued*)



Flowers

Fresh flower arrangements are a part of our church decoration. Flower arrangements are present at all times in the sanctuary of the church, except during the Lenten Season. You may place additional flower arrangements if you choose.

Pew Decorations

Pew decorations are permitted, but we request that all decorations be tied on with a ribbon. No adhesives, such as tape, are permitted. Please inform your florist of this request.

Aisle Runner

Aisle runners are not permitted in the church due to insurance liability issues.

Photographers

All photographers are requested to speak to the celebrant before the scheduled time of the wedding. Photographers should not enter the sanctuary for pictures. Additional lights are permitted.

PLANNING THE WEDDING (*continued*)



Booklets

Some couples choose to print booklets to aid the congregation's participation in the wedding ceremony, though it is not required. Please consult with the priest or deacon and the music director before planning this booklet.

Arrival Time

The groom should arrive at the church twenty minutes before the ceremony is to start. The bride should arrive ten minutes before the wedding. If your wedding is excessively delayed, and there is another Mass scheduled after your wedding, some music selections may have to be dropped. Starting on time is also a matter of courtesy towards your guests. Please advise your photographer and driver of your desire to be on time.

Upon Departure

The throwing of flower petals or the use of bubbles are acceptable outside the church after the wedding. In a world where people continue to suffer from a lack of food, we request that rice not be thrown.

Alcoholic beverages should not be consumed while on church property.