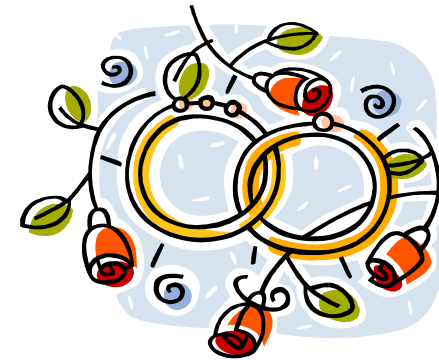


14. We also trust that your on-going spiritual formation will be taking place during your engagement. Praying together is encouraged. Going to Church and worshiping God is the best way for this to happen. You may also wish to arrange to celebrate the Sacrament of Confession. We greatly encourage you to make the most of the opportunity to ask any questions you might have about the Faith during your preparation time with the priest/deacon. This time is a great opportunity to make a deeper commitment to God as you prepare to make a deep commitment to your future spouse.
15. The St. Rose Church Director of Music, Cynthia Woolford, will help you in planning appropriate music for your ceremony. Please contact her as soon as you book your wedding date at 732-681-0512 Ext 572, for arrangements. The fees for the organist and the soloist will be discussed with Mrs. Woolford and checks should be made payable directly to the artists and submitted to the Music Director 2 weeks in advance of the wedding.
16. There will be two Wedding Music Seminars held each year which all wedding couples are required to attend. At these seminars, you will be able to hear the available soloists, instrumentalists, and appropriate music selections in order to make it easier for you to choose your wedding music. Please call Mrs. Woolford at 732-681-0512 Ext 572) for seminar's dates and times and to reserve your place at the seminar. The primary soloist must be selected from among the excellent staff of soloists available at St. Rose Church. The Music Director must approve any guest soloists. Please discuss the soloist with the Music Director and be aware that all approved guest soloists must attend at least one practice with the Music Director, which will involve an additional fee.
17. The Music Director can provide any outside instrumentalists, i.e., trumpeters, bagpipers or violinists.



*Preparing for the  
Sacrament of Marriage  
at the  
Church of St. Rose  
Belmar, New Jersey*

Congratulations on your engagement!

You have chosen someone you love to marry for the rest of your lives. Both of you believe that God's Providence has brought you together; therefore, you have decided to celebrate the Rite of Marriage. This pamphlet is intended to help you understand the requirements for preparing to celebrate the Sacrament of Marriage in the Catholic Church and gives you particular information you need for having your wedding here at St. Rose.

## Points to Remember

1. The Catholic Bishops of New Jersey have formulated a common policy that requires couples planning to marry to contact the parish priest one year before the ceremony. If you do not contact us early enough, it might be difficult to make proper preparations for your desired date.
2. Only those who have been registered at St. Rose Parish for at least one year, the children of those registered at St. Rose Parish for at least one year, or graduates of St. Rose High School who are registered at another parish, can request to be married at the Church of St. Rose. Only those people, themselves, who want to get married and fit the criteria should contact our parish office (732-681-0512 Ext. 416). The secretary will take down initial information and notify you of available dates and times. A priest/deacon will then contact you for arranging several necessary appointments required for marriage preparation. Only the priest/deacon can finalize your wedding date and time.
3. Marriage celebrated within a Mass will be performed by a priest, while a Deacon may perform wedding ceremonies outside of Mass. If you intend to have a priest/deacon from outside the parish to officiate at your wedding, you must secure permission well in advance of your wedding date, according to Church Law.
4. Weddings at St. Rose are scheduled on Saturdays at 12:00 noon and 2:00 p.m.; and on Fridays in the late afternoon. Wedding rehearsals are scheduled according to church availability with the priest/deacon preparing the ceremony. No weddings are scheduled on Sunday.
5. You will be asked to obtain the following documents for your wedding: I) recently dated (within six months of your wedding date – not the original document) and a sealed copy of your Baptismal Certificate. II) Communion Certificate. III) Confirmation Certificate. (Non-Catholics are only

required to show proof of their Baptism and will need two witnesses to testify that they are single and free to marry.) IV) The couple must attend *Pre-Cana, Engaged Encounter* or *To Trust Again* programs together and submit the certificate to the priest performing the wedding. The *Pre-Cana* program is offered at St. Rose Church and many other locations throughout the Diocese of Trenton.

**To register for Pre Cana log onto**

**[www.dioceseoftrenton.org/go/precana](http://www.dioceseoftrenton.org/go/precana)**

6. An offering for the use of the Church is appropriate according to your means. Please make checks payable to St. Rose Church. An offering of \$400 is suggested.
7. To set a wedding date a non-refundable payment of \$100.00 is required.
8. Any flower arrangements you may choose must be left in the Church after the wedding. Any other decorations must be discussed with the priest/deacon.
9. For safety reasons, aisle runners are **not** permitted; nor may flower petals be strewn in the aisles or in the church.
10. Throwing of rice, confetti, flower petals or birdseed and the releasing of balloons are forbidden in the Church or on the Church property. Only bubbles and bells are permitted to be used outside the Church building.
11. The unity Candle is not a part of the Rite of Marriage of the Catholic Church.
12. Photographers and videographers are permitted in the Church before, during and after the wedding. You must discuss the particulars of their access with the priest/deacon performing the ceremony. We want to insure that proper respect of the Church and your wedding will be observed and that pictures are taken in a timely manner. No videographers or photographers are allowed in the choir loft due to safety concerns.