

## **General Requirements for Marriage in the Catholic Church**

- A Catholic can be married in a Catholic church other than their own parish church only with the permission of the bride's pastor or parochial administrator. A marriage between a Catholic and someone of a different faith tradition requires the permission of the pastor or the parochial administrator.
- In the Archdiocese of Cincinnati, Catholic weddings must take place in a Catholic church.
- A Catholic may be married in a non-Catholic church if special permission or dispensation is obtained from the Archbishop. A priest or deacon may participate in such a ceremony once permission is obtained. In such circumstances, the couple is still required to receive pre-nuptial preparation.
- It is possible to include a non-Catholic minister in the wedding ceremony at Holy Family Church.
- Any Catholic priest or deacon the couple wishes to witness their wedding is welcome at Holy Family. Normally, the officiating priest or deacon will be responsible for pre-nuptial preparation. Please inform the priest or deacon at Holy Family if you wish to have another priest celebrate your wedding liturgy.
- Baptismal records of both bride and groom must be presented.
- If either bride or groom was previously married, documentation verifying freedom to marry in the Catholic Church must be provided.
- Special circumstances such as a couple living within a civil marriage, a couple cohabitating or a couple who is experiencing a pregnancy may require further additional guidance.