

# Wedding Regulations

## **NO FURNISHINGS ARE TO BE MOVED IN THE CHURCH! NO EXCEPTIONS!**

1. All floral arrangements and equipment placement must be made in consultation with the Wedding Coordinator.
2. Arrangements for floral decorations should be made with your florist. The name, address and phone number of your florist must be provided to the Wedding Coordinator.
3. Nails, tacks or any type of adhesive may NOT be used in any of the furniture or woodwork. Unity candles and sand are prohibited. Check with the Wedding Coordinator for exceptions.
4. The name, address and phone number of your photographer/videographer must be provided to the Wedding Coordinator.
5. Photographers/Videographers must check with the Wedding Coordinator prior to the service for instructions about placement of cameras and where they may stand during the service. The photographer is a guest to the parish and must follow all directions.

6. No furniture, microphones or other church furnishings are to be moved for picture taking.

7. No throwing of rice, birdseed, confetti, or tissue flowers either inside or outside the church. Flower petals and bubbles are prohibited.

8. Clean Up - All rooms used by the wedding party are to be cleaned and put back the way they were prior to the wedding. The bride's personal attendant should see that someone is assigned for this duty.

9. No smoking, alcoholic beverages or drugs on any part of the church property at the rehearsal or wedding. Catholic Canon Law absolutely forbids the marriage to occur if the groom, the bride or both appear to have indulged in alcoholic beverages before the ceremony.

**10. NO RECEPTION LINE AT THE CHURCH.** Time constraints do not allow it.

**THE WEDDING WILL BE CANCELED AT THE LAST MINUTE IF ANY RULE IS VIOLATED.**



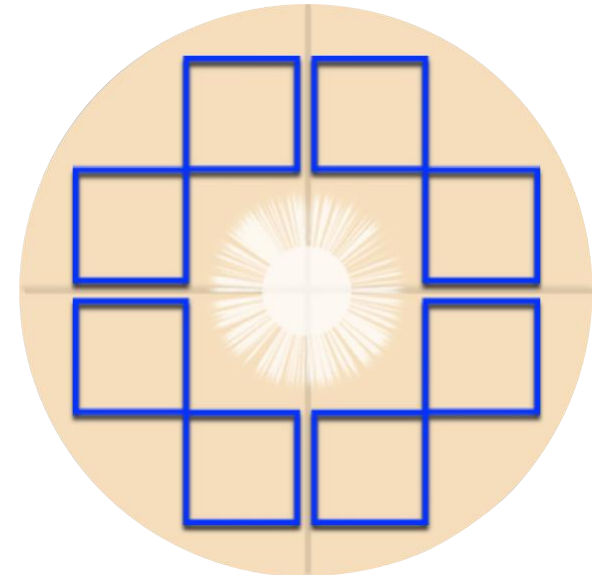
**Marriage is one of the most important decisions and realities of your life.** In it the two of you form a unity of love. For Catholics, marriage is not merely a civil contract but a covenant between a man and a woman before God. If both are baptized, the marriage is a sacrament, a symbol of the unity of Christ and the Church. A sacramental marriage is a means of grace, giving strength to the husband and wife to live out their commitment, and to help each on the path to holiness.

As you prepare for marriage, you'll be asked to reflect carefully and prayerfully on the nature of this sacrament. The Catechism of the Catholic Church states: *"The marriage covenant, by which a man and a woman form with each other an intimate communion of life and love, has been founded and endowed with its own special laws by the Creator. By its very nature it is ordered to the good of the couple, as well as to the generation and education of children. Christ the Lord raised marriage between the baptized to the dignity of a sacrament. The sacrament of Matrimony signifies the union of Christ and the Church. It gives spouses the grace to love each other with the love with which Christ has loved his Church; the grace of the sacrament thus perfects the human love of the spouses, strengthens their indissoluble unity, and sanctifies them on the way to eternal life."* (# 1660- 1661)



**Any marriage involving a Catholic is subject to Church norms known as "canon law."** Catholics are obliged to marry in the Catholic Church, following the marriage rite of the Catholic Church. Their exchange of vows must be witnessed by either a priest or deacon and two other witnesses.

# Marriage Preparation



Light of the World  
Roman Catholic Church

10316 W. Bowles Ave.  
Littleton, CO 80127

303-973-3969

[www.lotw.org](http://www.lotw.org)

# The Marriage Preparation Process

## The Marriage Preparation Process includes:

- Meeting with a priest or deacon to determine your freedom to marry according to the laws of the Church and then to schedule your wedding and administer the FOCCUS Inventory starting the paperwork for your marriage.
- FEES ARE DUE AT THE FIRST MEETING.
- **THE WEDDING FEE FOR PARISH MEMBERS\* IS \$375.00** and is due at the first meeting with the priest or deacon in order to secure the date of your wedding. (Check made payable to Light of the World Roman Catholic Church)
- If your wedding is at another parish but marriage prep is done through Light of the World there is a fee of **\$250.00**
- The wedding fee for **NON-REGISTERED** members of the parish to have their wedding at Light of the World is **\$1,000.00** due at time the wedding is scheduled.

\* To qualify as a parishioner, a person must be registered, or his/her parents must be registered, and be a contributing member of Light of the World Parish. No parish member is ever turned away because of an inability to pay the fee.

- A review of the FOCCUS Inventory with a married mentor couple, deacon or priest.
- Attendance at a Marriage Builder Weekend
- Attendance at a Natural Family Planning Class through the Archdiocese of Denver
- Completing and collecting necessary documents prior to the wedding, i.e.

1. **Baptism Certificate:**  
*For each baptized Catholic, an "Updated Original Baptism Certificate with Notations" is required. This document can be obtained by calling, e-mailing, or writing the church of your baptism. No copies or faxes are accepted.*

*For each person baptized in another Christian faith, a copy of the Baptism Certificate is required. If a copy of the Baptism Certificate is unable to be located from parents or the church of baptism, a letter from the church is acceptable. If the church of baptism doesn't keep records, a letter from a witness to the baptism (a parent or godparent) stating that you were baptized, the name, date and location of the church, is acceptable*

2. **Freedom to Marry Form:** *This form is given to each of you to give to a parent to be completed and signed before a priest. If a parent is not able to sign, a relative who has known you all or most of your life is acceptable.*

3. **Marriage License:** The State of Colorado requires that a license for marriage be obtained. Remember to apply for your marriage license at the courthouse one month prior to your wedding.

\*\* IF EITHER PERSON has been previously married, a Certificate of Nullity, (or annulment), is required before the Marriage Preparation Process begins.

**Marriage Blessing (Validation):** If you are having your marriage blessed (validated in the Catholic Church) you will need a copy of your marriage license in addition to the documents listed above.

## Four Months Prior To The Wedding:

- Meet with the Wedding Coordinator to plan the details of the wedding; i.e., flowers, candles, environment, etc.
- Contact and meet with the Parish Worship Minister or Music Director to select music and musicians for the wedding ceremony.
- Contact and meet with the priest or deacon to select readings, prayers, etc.

## Parish Contacts:

### Marriage Prep Information:

Dr. Sherwood Owens  
303-973-3969 ext 244

- or -

Music Director  
Laura Maclean - 303-973-3969

*Note: If your wedding is not taking place at Light of the World, you need not concern yourself with rehearsal and other issues related specifically to the parish church.*

## Dates and Times of Weddings

Weddings at Light of the World are celebrated on **Saturdays, either at 10:00AM or 1:00PM.** The church is available two hours before your scheduled wedding time and one hour after your wedding.

Weddings can be scheduled on **Friday evening** if there is not a conflict with previously scheduled wedding rehearsals or major parish activities.

Sunday weddings are not possible due to regular scheduled Masses, baptisms and other parish meetings.

Weddings are not scheduled on holiday weekends and they are discouraged during Lent.

+ **The wedding date is confirmed only after the fee is received to reserve the church.**

## REHEARSAL DAYS AND TIMES

Wedding rehearsals take place on the evening prior to the wedding and are scheduled with the Priest or Deacon presiding at the wedding and the Wedding Coordinator.

**Rehearsals are usually at 5PM or 6PM**

