

WEDDING GUIDELINES

Thank you for both your interest in and consideration of celebrating the Sacrament of Holy Matrimony at the Shrine!

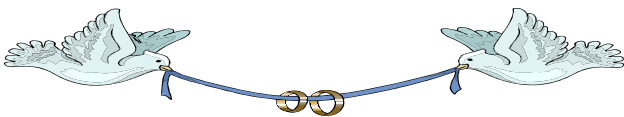
All pilgrims are welcome at The Shrine of Our Lady of Pompeii to celebrate their faith, to deepen their personal commitment to Christ and devotion to Mary, Mother of God!

We pledge to do all we can to ensure a beautiful and sacred day that you will always treasure.

There are, however, several steps to follow as part of the marriage preparation and ceremony within the Archdiocese of Chicago (www.familyministries.org/tensteps.htm), which are as follows:

MARRIAGE PREPARATION

1. Introductory meeting with Priest, Deacon, Pastoral Minister, or Pastoral Associate.
2. Pre-marital evaluation F.O.C.C.U.S.
3. Follow-up discussion.
4. Participation in parish-based or Archdiocesan program (Pre-Cana, Special Pre-Cana).
5. Christian Sexuality and or Introductory Natural Family Planning workshop
6. Consultation with Priest or Pastoral Associate regarding wedding ceremony. Complete Pre-nuptial Questionnaire.
7. Wedding rehearsal.
8. Wedding ceremony.
9. First Continuing Education Workshop in the first year of marriage.
10. Second Continuing Education Workshop in the first year of marriage.



WEDDING CEREMONY

BRIDAL ROOM: At the present time, no bridal room exists at the Shrine; however, public lavatories with mirrors are located in a smoke-free, air-conditioned Assembly Hall located adjacent to the Shrine.

MUSIC: If needed the Pastoral Associate will provide the contact information of highly recommended musicians. Please select hymns/songs that reflect the sacredness of the sacrament. Musicians and/or clergy may be consulted about wedding appropriate music selections.

DECORATIONS: Floral arrangements in the sanctuary are welcome, with the exceptions of the Christmas and Easter seasons. The center aisle of the Shrine is 75 feet long from the sanctuary to the narthex (end of church). Also, rice, birdseed, streamers are **not** permitted either inside or outside of the Shrine.

PHOTOGRAPHY: Photographers and videographers are permitted to film before, during and after the wedding ceremony. Please allow twenty (20) to thirty (30) minutes after the wedding ceremony for photographs depending on whether or not there is another wedding ceremony scheduled. Please check with the presiding priest about flash use.

PARKING: Guest may park along Lexington and Lytle streets. Zone Five parking does not apply as courtesy parking is extended by Chicago's District 12 Police Department for both the rehearsal and wedding ceremony.

SHRINE EXPENSES:

To express support for and the use and maintenance of the Shrine and its mission, a tax-deductible gift of \$750 is recommended. Included in the gift is a *non-refundable* deposit of \$250 that reserves both the wedding date and time. This gift does **not** include the clergy stipend, musicians or other extras.

CLERGY STIPEND: To be determined.

OPTIONAL EXPENSES:

Flower Petal Usage: \$25

Candelabra: \$25 each, excluding tapers

Tulle: \$250

Cathedral Candle Screens: \$50 each

A \$20 processing fee will be assessed for F.O.C.C.U.S. if an in-house Priest/Deacon presides at wedding ceremony.

All payments can be made by cash, Visa, Mastercard or check made payable to *The Shrine of Our Lady of Pompeii*.

FAQ's

1. You do not have to be a member/parishioner of The Shrine of Our Lady of Pompeii to be married here.
2. If you do not have a priest we can provide one.
3. Outside priests are welcome.
4. We do mixed-marriages (different religions).
5. Presently we do not have air-conditioning in the Shrine but you may bring in fans for your comfort.
6. We are not handicapped accessible at this time.
7. The Shrine fits about 425 people including balcony.

**MISSION STATEMENT:
THE SHRINE OF OUR LADY OF POMPEII**

The Shrine of Our Lady of Pompeii is a holy place of pilgrimage consecrated to Mary, Queen of the Holy Rosary. The Rosary celebrates the mysteries of Christ's life, whose incarnation, death and resurrection are the heart of the Shrine's ministry and our sacred link to salvation. The portrait of Our Lady of Pompeii illustrates the Rosary as Mary's gift to the Church, just as The Shrine of Our Lady of Pompeii is the gift of the Italian-American community to the Archdiocese of Chicago.

The Shrine is a center of hospitality, evangelization and spiritual growth, founded in the Italian tradition and culture. Located in Chicago's Near West Side, with its rich cultural diversity, the Shrine stands as a testimony to the faith and generosity of our ancestors and continues to embrace all pilgrims of faith. Thus, the Shrine enriches the mission of the Archdiocese of Chicago by dedicating its energies to the following spiritual and cultural goals:

† To maintain the Shrine as a place of pilgrimage and comfort, where all might experience inspirational moments of prayer, contemplation and devotion.

† To joyfully celebrate the sacred moments of life and the feasts and seasons of the Church Year, especially the solemnities of Mary and the patron saints of the Italian heritage.

† To celebrate with all pilgrims vibrant Sunday and Feast Day liturgies that are marked with warm hospitality, inspiring music and homilies.

† To be committed to Archdiocesan efforts of evangelization and healing for alienated and non-practicing Catholics of all ages.

† To preserve and enhance a ministry of spiritual assistance and service to others.

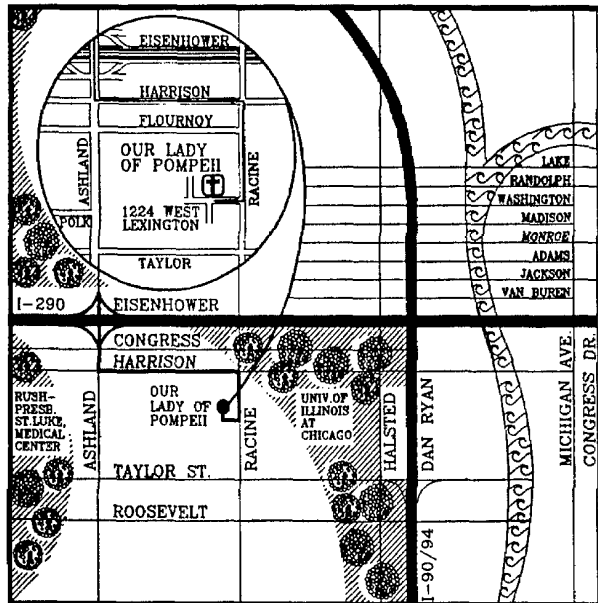
† To express the richness of the Italian culture and to foster appreciation of this rich heritage as a gift to all within our multi-cultural Archdiocese and society.

† To provide a center for younger generations of Italian-Americans to more deeply understand, recognize and appreciate their rich cultural identity and deeply rooted devotion to Mary.

† To be a place of unity and reconciliation for Italian-Americans dispersed throughout the Chicago area, the

**Located in the Heart of
Chicago's Historic Little Italy**

Our Lady of Pompeii, the oldest continuing Italian-American Catholic Church in the City of Chicago, is located just 5 minutes west of the Loop; only 2 blocks north of Taylor Street with its famous Italian restaurants and deli shops; and 2 blocks south of the Eisenhower Expressway I-290. Public access conveniently available via CTA and METRA.



**The Shrine of
Our Lady of Pompeii
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Chicago, Illinois 60607
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(312) 421-3756 fax
www.ourladyofpompeii.org**



**The Shrine of
Our Lady of Pompeii
*A Place to Pray for Peace***