

Protocols for Weddings during COVID-19

04.20.21



1. All Wedding participants including guests must abide by St. Mary's protocols.
2. About 125 people may attend, including the wedding party and family.
3. Couples may request that the wedding be livestreamed for those unable to attend. Livestream can be viewed at www.stmarys-wbl.org.
4. Currently, the only music ministers are Rebecca Kaup (Director of Liturgical Music and accompanist) and Carley O'Bryan (cantor).
5. Congregational singing is not allowed.
6. If celebrating a Eucharistic Liturgy, there is no offertory song or presentation of gifts.
7. Guest books are not permitted at the church at this time.
8. Displays in the gathering space are not permitted at this time.
9. Nursery is closed.
10. Everyone should enter through the parking lot doors.
11. Masks must be worn at all times by everyone age 2 and above.
12. Everyone sanitizes hands upon entering the building.
13. Social distancing will be practiced in the church and on church property.
14. Congregating in the gathering space before or after the wedding is not permitted. 30 minutes before the wedding, the wedding party will gather in the St. Joseph Room while guests are seated by the ushers.
15. Upon their arrival, guests are required to wear masks, to sanitize their hands and will be escorted to a pew by the ushers.
16. Ushers will lead guests to their pew, but not extend an arm to the women.
17. If celebrating a Eucharistic Liturgy, there will be no communion procession. Attendees remain in their pews; a minister will come to them with hand sanitizer. A Eucharistic minister follows to distribute communion. Attendees wait until ministers have cleared the pew, remove masks, and consume Eucharist. Masks go back on.
18. Receiving lines are not permitted inside or outside the church at this time.
19. Immediately following the wedding, the wedding party will gather in the St. Joseph Room to wait for wedding guests to clear out.
20. At the conclusion of the ceremony, wedding guests remain in their pews. Ushers dismiss each row and the guests exit the church immediately.

The wedding party* must always wear masks while in the church with these exceptions:

21. The Bride and Groom do not need to wear a mask once they process into church.
22. Whoever walks in with the Groom or Bride (i.e. parents) may process in without a mask and then put on the mask once they have reached the front.
23. During the vows, the Maid of Honor and Best Man may stand with the Bride Groom.
24. Readers will remove their masks when reading.

* The wedding party includes anyone who will be processing into the church, such as parents.

Wedding protocols may be modified as State of Minnesota and Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis procedures change.

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