



St. Andrew the Apostle Roman Catholic Church

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Marriage Policies & Procedures

St. Andrew the Apostle Roman Catholic Church

Welcome & Congratulations

A Joyful Beginning

Congratulations on your engagement! This is a beautiful moment in your lives, and all of us at St. Andrew the Apostle are delighted that you are considering celebrating your marriage in the presence of God and the Church. We look forward to walking with you as you prepare for this sacred and joyful commitment.

A Journey We Take Together

Preparing for a Catholic wedding can feel like a lot of steps, forms, and conversations—but don't worry. I'll guide you through everything, one step at a time. Our goal is simple: to help you build a strong, faith-filled foundation for a lifelong marriage.

What You'll Need

Parish Boundaries & Registration

If you live **outside** the boundaries of St. Andrew the Apostle, you will need a **letter of delegation** from the Catholic parish closest to your home. Simply contact their pastor or parish office during office hours to request it.

If you live **within** the St. Andrew Apostle area, we warmly encourage you to **register as a couple** on our parish website.

If you are already registered as adult parishioners, you're all set—no need to register again.

Baptismal Certificates

Each of you will need a **recent** (issued within the last 6 months) copy of your baptismal certificate. To obtain one, contact the parish where you were baptized and request a certificate for marriage purposes.

- If you were baptized at **St. Andrew the Apostle**, we already have your record—no certificate needed.
- If you were baptized in a **Protestant or Anglican** church, a letter from that church is sufficient.
- If one of you is **not baptized** or **not Christian**, we will apply for the necessary dispensation later in the process.

Confirmation

Confirmation is strongly encouraged but **not required** for marriage in the Catholic Church. If either of you wishes to be confirmed before the wedding, please let me know—we can explore that possibility together.

Marriage Preparation Timeline

The preparation process typically takes **at least six months**.

Please begin early. We cannot confirm the wedding date until all required meetings, documents, and preparation steps are completed.

Costs & Fees

Marriage Fee – \$275

This diocesan-set fee includes:

- A **\$50 non-refundable deposit** (due at your first meeting)
- The church fee
- The priest's stipend

You may pay in full or in installments, by cash or e-transfer.

Marriage Preparation Course – \$140

This fee is payable at the end of your first meeting. Shortly afterward, you will be invited to choose a **mentor couple** who will accompany you through the preparation program.

Music & Musicians

Music fees are **not included** in the above costs. Our approved parish musicians set their own rates and will meet with you to plan the music for your ceremony.

Please note:

We do not permit outside musicians or family members to perform during the wedding liturgy. This policy exists because of several difficult experiences in the past. Your loved ones are warmly encouraged to share their musical gifts at your **reception**, where the atmosphere is more flexible and celebratory.

Special Circumstances

Previous Marriages

If either of you were previously married and your spouse has passed away, please bring:

- A copy of the **death certificate**
- The **marriage license** from that previous marriage

Please bring these documents to your first meeting.

Divorce & Annulments

If either of you has been divorced, please contact the pastor **before** scheduling any meetings. We must determine whether you are free to marry in the Catholic Church.

If an annulment is required, we will guide you through the process.

If you already have an annulment, please bring:

- The **decree of nullity**
- The **civil divorce decree**
- A copy of the **original marriage license**

Confirming Your Wedding Date

Prenuptial Inquiry

Your wedding date is **not confirmed** until:

1. The prenuptial inquiry has been completed


2. Both parties' freedom to marry has been verified

This takes place during your first meeting, which usually lasts 45–60 minutes.

Contact Information

If you are ready to begin the process or have any questions, please contact me:

 standrewsudbury@gmail.com

 705-566-1876

We will find a meeting time that works for everyone.

If you choose to marry elsewhere, please know that you remain in our prayers. We wish you a joyful, grace-filled life together.

May God's grace guide every step you take together.

Fr. Denis Vaiz

Pastor

St. Andrew the Apostle Roman Catholic Church