

No longer two, but one...

SAINT AGNES WEDDING GUIDELINES



Saint Agnes Church
1920 Newburg Road
Louisville, Kentucky

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Table of Contents

Celebrating the Sacrament of Matrimony.....	3
First Steps.....	3
People Needed for the Ceremony	4
Wedding Rehearsals.....	5
Photography	6
Videography.....	6
Church Decorations	7
Worship Aids (Wedding Programs).....	8
Arrival of the Wedding Party	8
Arrival of Wedding Guests	8
Introductory Rites.....	9
Liturgy of the Word.....	11
Rite of Matrimony.....	12
Liturgy of the Eucharist	13
Concluding Rites.....	14
After the Wedding	14
Fees and Gratuities.....	15
Important Contact Information	16
Timeline for Wedding Liturgy Planning	17
Options for the Scripture Readings.....	18
Wedding Music – Instrumental Tracks.....	21
Wedding Music – Vocal Tracks.....	22
Sample Intercessions	23
Wedding Liturgy Workshop: Quick Review	24

Celebrating the Sacrament of Marriage

The entire faith community and staff thanks you for choosing Saint Agnes Church or Our Lady of the Woods Chapel at Bellarmine University to celebrate your wedding day and for choosing to begin your lifelong commitment to each other in the sacrament of marriage. Your witness of faith is an inspiration to us all. We share in your joy and extend our most heartfelt congratulations!

Since you have chosen to celebrate your wedding day publicly with your family and friends and in the presence of God in the sacrament of marriage, you are encouraged to remain focused on the sacredness of your union in the wedding liturgy. Having to contend with the many details of fashion, flowers, photography, rehearsal dinners, travel arrangements and receptions, it can be easy to become distracted from what is most essential on your wedding day.

The wedding liturgy is a celebration that gives God praise for the love you have found in each other. It is also a grace-filled experience of communal worship intended to foster spiritual growth and transformation in all those gathered. The liturgy is never an event or a show for the bride or groom, with family and friends attending as if they were merely an audience. The prayers, music, rituals, and actions allow all participants to be actively involved in the communal worship of the faith community. The love you received as a gift from God then becomes a gift to the wider faith community and world.

First Steps

The first step in planning your wedding day is to contact Sheila Murphy, Pastoral Associate, who coordinates the marriage preparation process. She can be reached at smurphy@stagneslouisville.org or 502-451-2220 ext. 563. This needs to be done nine to twelve months before your anticipated wedding date.

To highlight and strengthen the communal dimension of the sacrament, Saint Agnes celebrates the sacrament of marriage with those who are registered parishioners. To ensure you are registered, please contact the parish secretary, Maggie Muncy, in the Parish Offices at mmuncy@stagneslouisville.org or 502-451-2220.

Saint Agnes receives many requests for weddings throughout the year. While it is advisable to place a tentative wedding date on the parish calendar a year in advance, the date and time will not be confirmed until a deposit of \$100 is paid. This payment goes toward the overall fees.

Weddings are ordinarily scheduled anywhere from 4:00 pm to 7:00 pm on a Friday or on a Saturday afternoon at 1:00 pm or 2:00 pm. It is also possible for smaller weddings to be celebrated within a regularly scheduled weekend Mass.

All engaged couples are required to attend a Wedding Liturgy Workshop. These workshops are presented 3 times a year (or perhaps 4 times, if needed) and address the details of planning your wedding liturgy—the selection of readings, music, liturgical ministers, etc. Ordinarily, couples meet with Sheila Murphy to confirm the date and begin the marriage preparation process before registering for a Wedding Liturgy Workshop.

The Wedding Liturgy Planning sheet, in addition to other forms and information, is available on the website at

<http://stagneslouisville.org/church/sacraments/#Marriage>. Forms are due two months before the wedding date and can be submitted by email to Joe Edlin, Director of Music, at jedlin@stagneslouisville.org.

If you have any questions or concerns, feel free to contact Joe Edlin at jedlin@stagneslouisville.org or Sheila Murphy smurphy@stagneslouisville.org at the Parish Offices 502-451-2220.

People Needed in the Ceremony

Presider: A priest or deacon is needed to preside at your wedding liturgy. Fr. Nelson, Pastor, Fr. Febin, Associate Pastor or Deacon Ned Berghausen would ordinarily preside over the Rite of Matrimony. However, you may invite a guest priest or deacon from another parish. A priest is needed to preside over the Eucharist, when the marriage ceremony takes place within Mass.

CROSS BEARER: At Saint Agnes, the Processional Cross is always carried in the Opening Procession of all wedding ceremonies. This person can be anyone of your choosing, as long as they are capable of carrying the cross safely. A cross bearer is not needed at Bellarmine Chapel.

GOSPEL BEARER: The Book of the Gospels is carried in the Opening Procession and placed on the altar. Usually, the person proclaiming the First Reading is the one who carries the Book of the Gospels in the Opening Procession.

WITNESSES: The Best Man and Maid/Matron of Honor usually serve as the witnesses but these can be any two adults in the wedding party.

LECTORS: One or more Lectors are needed to proclaim the First Reading from the Old Testament and the Second Reading from the New Testament. One Lector can proclaim both readings, or you may have a separate Lector for each reading. Care should be taken in selecting Lectors for your wedding. Lectors are those with special training in proclaiming God's word or persons who have the capacity to speak confidently, slowly, distinctly, and convey the message of the reading meaningfully and effectively to the assembly. A Lector may also lead the assembly in praying the Universal Prayer (formerly referred to as the Prayers of the Faithful).

At Saint Agnes, it is customary for the Cantor to lead the response to the Universal Prayer by singing, “Lord, hear our prayer,” or “Loving God, hear our prayer.” If you choose this option, the Cantor will pray each prayer and lead the assembly in singing the response.

SERVERS: If your wedding is celebrated within Mass, two servers are needed to assist the Presider. While the parish assigns servers, you may request specific parish servers.

GIFT BEARERS: If your wedding is celebrated within Mass, you will need two or more people to bring the gifts (bread and wine) to the altar during the Presentation of Gifts. This can be relatives, friends or parents and children of a single family.

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS: If your wedding is celebrated within Mass, one or two Eucharistic Ministers are needed to distribute Communion, along with the Presider.

CANTOR: The Cantor will lead the assembly in sung prayer. This includes singing the verses of the Psalm and all the sung parts of the Mass. The Cantor may also be used to sing a vocal selection before the wedding ceremony begins.

ACCOMPANIST: Couples need to make the arrangements to contract an accompanist to play the organ and/or other musicians for the wedding ceremony. Joe Edlin, Director of Music, will make suggestions of other well-qualified musicians, if he is unavailable for your wedding date.

We strongly encourage the use of Saint Agnes parish singers and musicians. They know the music that we suggest. They are familiar with the acoustics and sound delay in this church. All musicians are liturgically trained. Singers from outside the parish may be used for prelude music, but a Cantor from Saint Agnes parish is the best option to lead the singing during the wedding liturgy. All musicians, singers and music selected must be approved by Joe Edlin, Director of Music.

Wedding Rehearsals

Generally speaking, rehearsals are scheduled in the late afternoon or early evening on the day before your wedding. For instance, rehearsals for a Friday evening wedding are scheduled at 4:30 pm on Thursday. Rehearsals for a Saturday afternoon wedding are scheduled for 4:30 pm on Friday. Saint Agnes provides a Wedding Assistant who, along with the Presider, is in charge of the wedding rehearsal.

All members of the wedding party, including attendants, lectors, and parents of the bride and groom are encouraged to attend the rehearsal. Anyone who has an assigned role in your wedding liturgy needs to attend. It is recommended that

everyone, including the bride and groom, arrive at least 10 minutes before the scheduled rehearsal time so that the rehearsal may begin on time.

The persons you have selected to proclaim the readings or the Universal Prayer are encouraged to practice reading over the microphone before or during the rehearsal.

Usually, the rehearsal lasts no longer than an hour. During this time, the way everyone in the wedding party will process into and out of the church will be rehearsed. It is helpful to have already determined the order of the people in the Opening Procession. More detailed guidelines for determining the order of the procession will be discussed at the wedding liturgy workshop, but it should be noted that all those in the procession will begin in the rear of the church as they would at a regular Sunday liturgy.

Photography

Photographers can arrive ninety minutes before the scheduled time of the wedding. Pictures taken after the wedding ceremony are to be completed within 30 minutes.

Pictures may be taken anywhere inside the church before the wedding. Although backdrops may be used, they are not encouraged since there are many beautiful locations inside the church that are suitable for taking pictures. Pictures may also be taken on the grounds outside the church. Pictures should be completed at least 30 minutes before the wedding ceremony is scheduled to begin. This way, the photography is complete prior to the arrival of most of your guests, and your wedding party has 30 minutes to mentally focus, prepare, and tend to last-minute details.

Photographers may take flash photos during the processional and the recessional, but not during the actual wedding ceremony. Photographers may use the center and side aisles, the area directly in front of the sanctuary (before the steps), and the balcony, but they may not be in the sanctuary during the ceremony. Once the prelude begins and during the wedding liturgy, movement and talking should be discreet and kept to a minimum.

Photographers and videographers should dress professionally and appropriately for working in church. No jeans, flip flops, ball caps, or other unprofessional attire should be worn.

Videography

Video photographers should follow the same guidelines as still photographers for arrival times and appropriate dress. Video cameras may be placed in the

balcony, in the transept areas of the church, and the rear of the church. An **unattended** video camera may be placed in the sanctuary. Video cameras should remain stationary during the ceremony to minimize distractions.

Church Decorations

The best decorations are often the simplest ones. The purpose of additional decorations, if desired, should be to enhance the beauty of the church and grounds for your wedding rather than to clutter or distract.

You are responsible for providing any additional decorations, if desired, for inside or outside of the church, placing them before just the wedding ceremony and removing them afterwards.

Existing church decorations such as banners, plants or floral decorations may not be removed. The exception to this is that floral arrangements on either side of the high altar may be replaced with floral arrangements that you provide. Alternatively, existing arrangements can be left in place, and you can set any additional arrangements on pillars in the sanctuary or by the altar.

The lampposts at the parking lot entrance and along the sidewalks may be decorated with flowers, greenery, ribbons, bows or banners, if desired. Please do not use tape, nails, screws, staples or any other method to affix decorations that would mar the finish on wooden or painted surfaces.

You may want to reserve the first few pews on both sides of church for your wedding party and family. But keep in mind that your wedding guests should be seated as close to the sanctuary as possible, so make this area only as large as necessary to comfortably seat your family and wedding party.

Bows may be placed on pews to designate reserved pews or as a decorative feature. However they may only be attached by tying them around the ends of the pews or on a pew hangar. No tape or other devices may be used that might damage the finish of the pews. Likewise, bows or ribbons may be placed on handrails outside of the church, if desired. Be careful that additional decoration does not obstruct the use of handrails as they may be needed by your guests to navigate the steps.

Wreaths on the doors may be used on hangers that you provide that fit over the top of the doors. Nails or any other hanging devices are not allowed.

Candelabras are not allowed in the sanctuary of the church. Candles down the aisle may obscure your guests' view, but they are permitted as long as the candles are enclosed in glass. Once again, they should not be affixed to the pews in any way that might damage the pew or its finish.

For safety reasons, cloth or paper aisle runners are not permitted in the church. Similarly, nothing should be dropped or thrown in the aisle during the opening procession or closing recessional. This includes rose petals, rice, etc. Bubbles have sometimes been used in lieu of rice to wish the couple well. These are permitted but should be used **outside the church only**. These guidelines are intended to ensure the safety of individuals who might unexpectedly slip on flower petals, rice, or spills from bubbles.

Worship Aids (Wedding Programs)

Worship aids (programs) are provided by Saint Agnes Church to assist your guests in participating more fully in the wedding liturgy. Completing the wedding liturgy forms available on the parish website, <http://stagneslouisville.org/church/sacraments/#Marriage>, provides the information needed to create the worship aid, including the readings, music and the names of individuals in your wedding party. Samples of the basic worship aid is provided at the Wedding Liturgy Workshop, using standard paper and format.

Alternatively, you may choose to have Cathy Giangarra prepare your wedding worship aids. Cathy has a variety of premium paper stocks and optional ribbons in colors to coordinate with your wedding colors. The cost of her services is not included in the fee for the church that only covers our basic wedding worship aids. See “Important Contact Information” on page 14 for Cathy’s email and telephone number.

Arrival of the Wedding Party

Members of the wedding party can arrive up to ninety minutes before the scheduled time of the ceremony on the wedding day.

The area available for the bride and her attendants to get ready at no cost is limited to the alcove located just off the bathroom on the lower level of the church in a section of the passageway that leads to Aloysius Hall. Because this is not a large area, the bride and the bridesmaids are encouraged to arrive at the church as ready as possible. The groom and groomsmen are encouraged to arrive fully dressed because there is no other space available for their use. If more space is needed, Aloysius Hall can be used, if available, at a cost of \$100. The contract to rent Aloysius Hall is included in the form “Wedding Use of Saint Agnes Parish Facilities” available on the website <http://stagneslouisville.org/church/sacraments/#Marriage>.

Arrival of Wedding Guests

As your guests arrive they will be greeted with beautiful music and the warm ambiance of Saint Agnes Church. We encourage you to have your wedding party and family greet their guests as they arrive. Your guests will feel welcomed when they are greeted by someone they know. Customarily, guests have been escorted to their seats by groomsmen or ushers.

In this celebration of unity, we encourage you to seat your guests as they arrive and as close to the front of the church as possible. The custom of seating guests on the bride's or groom's side only creates an unnecessary division, and may result in unbalanced seating. This is especially true if either the bride or groom's family is from out of town.

Keep in mind the comfort of guests who are elderly and those with small children. Trying to keep a toddler with a limited attention span quiet during the wedding ceremony is hard enough without expecting them to behave for an hour or more beforehand. Please advise family members escorting young children and elderly guests to arrive shortly before the wedding.

For those in a wheelchair or who need to avoid steps, there are two ramps on the south side of the church, nearest the monastery. Handicapped parking spaces, located in the circular drive in front of the monastery, are convenient to both ramps. There is a special wheelchair section available near the front of church on the left-hand side.

Guests should be greeted at the door and escorted to their seats without delay. People gathering or waiting in the back of church may create unnecessary noise or confusion for guests arriving for your wedding. If you have a guest register, it can be stationed outside, weather permitting, or in the lobby. Once guests reach the inner doors to church, they can be escorted to their seat.

Introductory Rites

The wedding ceremony begins with a liturgical procession, similar to the one we regularly have at Mass on the weekend. Guests will be invited to stand for the Opening Procession, and the worship aid will include the words, *"Please stand for the Wedding Procession."*

The order of people in the procession begins with the Cross Bearer, followed by the Servers (if celebrated within Mass), Gospel Bearer, Presider, and then the wedding party. There are three options for the order of procession for the wedding party. The differences between the three options are in bold print.

Option A (Preferred)

Cross Bearer
Servers (if celebrating within Mass)
Gospel Bearer
Presider
Bridesmaids and Groomsmen, as couples
Flower Girl and Ring Bearer, if any
Maid of Honor and Best Man
Parents of the Groom
Parents of the Bride
Bride and Groom

Option B

Cross Bearer
Servers (if celebrating within Mass)
Gospel Bearer
Presider
Bridesmaids and Groomsmen, as couples
Flower Girl and Ring Bearer, if any
Maid of Honor and Best Man
Parent, Groom, Parent
Parent, Bride, Parent

Option C

Cross Bearer
Servers (if celebrating within Mass)
Gospel Bearer
Presider & **Groom**
Bridesmaids and Groomsmen, as couples
Flower Girl & Ring Bearer, if any
Maid of Honor & Best Man
Bride & Father/Escort

In Option C, the seating of other parents and grandparents takes place prior to the Opening Procession.

Since this is a celebration uniting the bride and groom, and the couple has chosen to be married in the church, the couple is encouraged to process in together in the Opening Procession (as in Option A above). The custom of hiding the bride from the groom before the wedding ceremony dates from a time when marriages were arranged and the bride was literally given away. In such marriages, the couple did not see each other before the wedding ceremony to make it less likely that the

wedding would be called off. The simple act of the bride and groom processing in together clearly expresses: "This is a choice we have made together."

The best choice of music for the Opening Procession is one musical piece that accompanies the entire procession. Having a different piece of music begin for the bride to walk down the aisle changes the focus of the Opening Procession from one that is intended to include all in the liturgical assembly to one that emphasizes the bride alone.

The Cross Bearer proceeds down the aisle and up the sanctuary steps, places the Processional Cross in its stand and takes his/her seat. The Gospel Bearer proceeds down the aisle and up the sanctuary steps, then around the altar to place the Book of Gospels in the middle of the altar before taking his/her seat. As each person or couple in the wedding party approaches their pew, they should pause, bow toward the altar, and then enter their pew and remain standing.

Once the wedding party is in place and the procession is over, the Presider greets and welcomes everyone to this joyous occasion. If the celebration takes place within Mass, the *Gloria* (Glory to God) is sung. The Presider prays the Opening Prayer, then invites everyone to be seated to listen to the word of God. This ends the Opening Rite.

The Liturgy of the Word

As part of the wedding liturgy preparation, couples choose the readings to be used in their wedding ceremony. At least one reading that explicitly speaks of marriage must be chosen. These readings are marked with an asterisk (*) on pages 15-18 in this guide and on the website. Couples may choose one or two Lectors to proclaim the word of God.

THE FIRST READING: After everyone has been seated, the Lector assigned to proclaim the First Reading pauses a few seconds before rising from his/her seat, stops before the first step to bow toward the altar, then proceeds to the ambo (lectern). The Lector proclaims the reading slowly, deliberately and clearly so everyone can hear and understand. After the reading, the Lector pauses for a few seconds, and then concludes by saying, "The word of the Lord." The assembly responds, "Thanks be to God." The Lector then returns to his/her seat.

THE PSALM: The Cantor pauses a few seconds after the Lector is seated, then approaches the altar, bows, and proceeds to the ambo to lead the Responsorial Psalm. The Cantor intones the refrain, and everyone—including the wedding party—is invited to sing the refrain in response and following each verse. At the conclusion of the Psalm, the Cantor returns to his/her seat.

THE SECOND READING: After the Cantor is seated, the Lector assigned to proclaim the Second Reading pauses a few seconds before rising from his/her seat, stops

before the first step, bows toward the altar, then proceeds to the ambo (lectern). The Lector proclaims the reading slowly, deliberately and clearly so everyone can hear and understand. After the reading, the Lector pauses for a few seconds, and then concludes by saying, "The word of the Lord." The assembly responds, "Thanks be to God." The Lector then returns to his/her seat.

THE GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: When the Presider rises before proclaiming the Gospel, the Cantor leads the assembly in the Gospel Acclamation or Alleluia.

THE GOSPEL: At the end of the Gospel Acclamation, the Presider proclaims the Gospel. After a brief pause, he concludes by saying, "The Gospel of the Lord." The assembly responds, "Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ." Everyone is seated.

THE HOMILY: The Presider offers a spiritual reflection on the Scripture readings and the Sacrament of Matrimony.

The Rite of Matrimony

At the end of the homily, the Presider invites the bride and groom and their witnesses to join him in front of the sanctuary. The bride should leave her flowers on her seat during this time. The groom needs to be alert to any extra care that the bride may need in moving about or in adjusting her wedding dress. Before the rehearsal, the couple and the wedding assistant determine where the attendants stand during the Rite of Matrimony. The two witnesses or the entire wedding party, join the bride and groom in the area in front of the sanctuary. Children (e.g. flower girls and ring bearers) remain seated with their family during the Rite of Matrimony.

THE QUESTIONS BEFORE THE CONSENT: The priest questions the couple about their freedom of choice to marry, fidelity to each other, and the acceptance and upbringing of children.

THE CONSENT: The couple joins their right hands and declares their consent before God and the Church.

THE RECEPTION OF THE CONSENT: The Priest/Deacon, as official witness of the Church, accepts the consent of the couple, and offers a prayer.

THE BLESSING AND EXCHANGE OF RINGS: The couple exchange rings as a sign of their love and fidelity.

THE UNIVERSAL PRAYER: After the consent and exchange of rings, the witnesses and others in the wedding party remain in their places until after the Universal Prayer. The Presider invites everyone else in the assembly to stand and join in prayer. Couples are encouraged to compose their own prayer petitions using the sample set of intercessions (p. 23) as a guide. These prayers may be prayed by

a Lector of your choice, or by the Cantor. In liturgies at Saint Agnes, it is customary for the Cantor to recite the prayers and then invite the assembly to join in a simple sung response of “Loving God, hear our prayer” or “Lord, hear our prayer.” If you choose the sung response, the Cantor recites the prayers. If you choose a spoken response, one of the Lectors assigned to the First or Second Reading recites the prayers or a third Lector is assigned to this task. After the Presider concludes the Universal Prayer, the wedding party returns to their pews and everyone is seated.

In compliance with liturgical norms for the Archdiocesan Office of Worship, the Unity Candle is not used as part of the marriage ritual. Historical and theological reasons support this policy. While its exact origins are unknown, the Unity Candle is a relatively new custom that became popular only after its appearance on a television soap opera. Moreover, the symbolism of “two becoming one” is already present in the declaration of consent and exchange of rings and there are multiple signs of unity evident in Catholic liturgy, including the Eucharist, the preeminent sign of unity.

If your wedding is celebrated outside of Mass in a Liturgy of the Word service, then after the Universal Prayer, there is a Nuptial Blessing, the Lord’s Prayer and Sign of Peace, followed by a final Blessing and the Recessional when the wedding party exits down the center aisle. If your wedding is celebrated within Mass, the service continues with the Liturgy of the Eucharist.

Liturgy of the Eucharist

If your wedding is celebrated within Mass, then after the Universal Prayer, the assembly is seated for the Presentation of the Gifts of bread and wine. At least two people, or possibly an entire family, are designated to bring the gifts to the altar. A brief instrumental selection, chosen by your musicians, is played during this action.

THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER: During the Eucharistic Prayer, the Cantor leads the assembly in singing the *Sanctus* (Holy, Holy, Holy), Mystery of Faith, and Amen. The musical responses are the same ones used at Saint Agnes Church during the current liturgical season.

THE LORD’S PRAYER: The Lord’s Prayer (or Our Father) holds a special place among all Christian denominations as a unifying prayer. As such, the entire assembly joins in praying it together rather than the Cantor singing it as a solo piece.

THE NUPTIAL BLESSING: The Nuptial Blessing is a special blessing of the Church on the newly married couple. This blessing is ordinarily led by the Presider.

THE SIGN OF PEACE: This is a time when all will be invited to share a Sign of Peace — a handshake, embrace or kiss. Couples share this Sign of Peace with each other and those in their immediate surroundings in sanctuary. Couples should not leave the sanctuary to greet additional family and friends as this unduly prolongs the rite and moves the focus away from the Eucharist that is about to be celebrated.

THE FRACTION RITE/LAMB OF GOD: After the Sign of Peace, the Cantor leads the assembly in the *Agnus Dei* (Lamb of God) as the Presider and three designated Eucharistic Ministers prepare for the distribution of Communion.

COMMUNION PROCESSION: Those who will not be receiving Communion because they are not members of our Church are still encouraged to approach a Eucharistic Minister to receive a blessing. This helps maintain the flow of the Communion Procession and avoids having some people climbing over others in the pew when they return to their seats. This is especially the case among those in the wedding party. Crossing one's hands over one's heart conveys one's intention to receive a blessing rather than Communion.

After returning to their pews, all remain standing until the entire assembly has received Communion. Once this occurs, all are seated for a brief period of silence. All are invited to join together in silent prayer that one day soon, Christ's own prayer "that all may be one" will be fulfilled.

Concluding Rites

At the time of the Final Blessing, an *optional* Song of Blessing for the couple which is sung by the Cantor may be added. If this option is not used, then after a final prayer and blessing, the Presider introduces the newly married couple to their family and friends and invites applause from the assembly to congratulate them. Couples may kiss each other before processing out of the church. When the recessional music begins, the wedding party and immediate family follow the couple out. It is not necessary for Cross Bearer, Gospel Bearer, Servers or Presider to process out.

After the Wedding

Couples who plan on taking pictures immediately after the wedding, should process out, down the front steps and return inside the church going up the ramp and into the side entrance. It is not advisable to form a reception line at this time, but to make that part of the reception.

The post-wedding picture session should be no longer than 30 minutes. There may be another wedding, the Sacrament of Reconciliation, or another scheduled activity in the church following your wedding.

To avoid any loss, someone should check the pews and gather all personal belongings, flowers or decorations for safe-keeping. Remember, couples are responsible for the removal of all additional decorations. Please designate a person responsible for ensuring this is done.

Fees and Gratuities

Beginning July 1, 2021, the fee to celebrate a wedding at Saint Agnes Church is \$800. A deposit of \$100 is paid to confirm the date on the parish calendar and that payment goes toward the entire fee. This fee includes the cost of using the church, wedding assistant, and worship aids (wedding programs). The Cantor fee is \$125. The Accompanist fee is \$200–\$300, depending on the accompanist you choose. Any additional musicians—e.g. trumpeters, violinists, flutist, etc.—set their own fees. Please add \$20 (cash) for each server, if celebrating your wedding within Mass. The fees for Cantor, Accompanist, additional Musicians or Servers, if applicable, must be paid directly to these individuals, separate from the payment of the church fee.

The fee to hold a wedding at Our Lady of the Woods Chapel at Bellarmine University (BU) is \$1,800 (that is, \$1300 BU fee + \$500 Saint Agnes fee). Payment for these weddings is outlined in BU's "Application for Matrimonial Use of Our Lady of the Woods Chapel." Out of the total fee collected, Bellarmine University reimburses Saint Agnes for its portion. The fee for Saint Agnes is \$350 for its services and \$150 is for the wedding assistant.

You are welcome to have additional professional musicians such as brass quintets, string quartets, harpists, flutists, etc. Joe Edlin is happy to assist in recommending or reserving such musicians for your wedding, but these musicians set their own fees and payment arrangements.

A gratuity to your Presider is not required. However, most couples desire to express their gratitude to the Presider with a monetary gift. While the amount is strictly up to the giver, \$100-\$150 is recommended.

Fees related to weddings held at Saint Agnes are due at least two weeks before the wedding date.

Make out checks for the church fee in the amount of \$800 to Saint Agnes Church. Checks for Accompanist, Cantor, and additional Musicians are made out directly to these individuals. Checks, including cash for Servers, (\$20 each) can be mailed to Saint Agnes (1920 Newburg Road, Louisville, KY 40205) marked to the attention of Joe Edlin, Director of Music, or dropped off in person at the Parish Offices during normal business hours.

The fee schedule for weddings at Saint Agnes and Our Lady of the Woods Chapel at Bellarmine University is subject to an annual review.

Important Contact Information

Marriage Preparation

Sheila Murphy, Pastoral Associate

Phone: 502-451-2220 ext. 563

Email: smurphy@stagneslouisville.org

Wedding Liturgy Preparation/Musicians

Pianist/Organist:

Joe Edlin, Director of Music

Phone: 502-451-1110 ext. 542

Email: jedlin@stagneslouisville.org

Wedding Assistants:

Martha Lies

mjlies1809@gmail.com

502-475-2339

Julie Brink

seadj@bellsouth.net

502-640-9016

Organists:

Geoffrey Vickery

geoffrey@evickery.com

502- 381-3835

Louis Senn

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502- 931-0056

Cantors:

Lori Codey

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502-454-6797

Winnie Shouse

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502-741-7095

Taylor Dant

taylor.john.williams.dant@gmail.com

502-494-9859

Trumpeters:

Michael Giangarra

mgiangarra@yahoo.com

502-244-7027

Jim Recktenwald

jim@symphonicarts.com

502-599-3105

Violin/String Quartet:

Jack Griffin

jack@jackgriffin.com

502-777-4789

Cello:

Maggie Muncy

m.mcintyre83@gmail.com

502-797-5377

Professional Wedding Programs:

Cathy Giangarra

cgiangarra@stpatrick-lou.org
and mgiangarra@yahoo.com

502-244-7027

Timeline for Wedding Liturgy Planning

Now, or as soon as possible:

- Book both the Accompanist and Cantor as these are required.
- Book any additional musicians, if desired.

At least TWO MONTHS before your wedding date:

- Submit wedding forms available at <http://stagneslouisville.org/church/sacraments/#Marriage> to Joe Edlin, Director of Music, at jedlin@stagneslouisville.org. These include:
 - Wedding Liturgy Plan
 - Procession Plan, including the names of the Maid/Matron of Honor, Best Man, other attendants, and parents to create the Worship Aid
 - Wedding Use of Saint Agnes Parish Facilities to rent Aloysius Hall (\$100 fee), if applicable. There is no charge to use the alcove near the bathroom at the bottom of the stairs in the church.

At least TWO WEEKS before your wedding:

- Drop off payments of church fee, Accompanist, Cantor, other musicians and Servers to Joe Edlin, director of Worship at the Parish Offices:
 - Church--\$800
 - Aloysius Hall--\$100
 - Servers--\$20 each, if celebrating within Mass (cash)
 - Cantor--\$125 (Check made out directly to the Cantor)
 - Accompanist--\$200--\$300 (Check made out directly to Accompanist)
 - Gratuity for Presider--at the couple's discretion, but \$100-\$150 is recommended (cash or separate check).
- Send Intercessions, if you are composing your own, to Joe Edlin at jedlin@stagneslouisville.org
- Inform Maggie Muncy, Parish Secretary, whether two Servers are needed for the date/time of your wedding in the Parish Offices at mmuncy@stagneslouisville.org

One Week before wedding date:

- Give wedding license to Maggie Muncy, Parish Secretary, in Parish Offices during normal business hours.

Options for Scripture Readings

Based on ancient patterns of worship, the Liturgy of the Word involves several passages from the Bible and invites us to listen to how God continues to speak to us today. For weddings, as for weekend Mass, three readings are normally chosen. The First Reading is usually taken from the Old Testament, followed by a Responsorial Psalm. The Second Reading is taken from the New Testament. Then there is a reading from one of the four gospels. Options for the readings are provided in the *Order of Celebrating Matrimony*, a guide for worship in Catholic weddings. This list is also available online at the Catholic website, *For Your Marriage*, foryourmarriage.org/readings, along with lots of other helpful information related to marriage. Below are the readings with a descriptive title, Scripture citation and a brief excerpt from the reading.

Options for the First Reading (Old Testament)

1. ***The first creation story** (Genesis 1:26-28, 31): “God created man in his image; in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them.” [B-1](#).
2. ***The second creation story** (Genesis 2:18-24): “The Lord God said, 'It is not good for the man to be alone; I will make a suitable partner for him. That is why a man leaves his father and mother and clings to his wife, and the two of them become one body.’” [B-2](#).
3. ***With God's help, Isaac finds a suitable wife in Rebekah** (Genesis 24:48-51, 58-67): “Then Isaac took Rebekah into his tent; he married her, and thus she became his wife.” [B-3](#).
4. ***Tobias asks Raguel for Sarah's hand in marriage** (Tobit 7:9-10, 11-15): “May the Lord of heaven prosper you both. May he grant you mercy and peace.” [B-4](#).
5. ***Tobias prays for God's mercy for himself and Sarah on their wedding night** (Tobit 8:5-7): “Call down your mercy on me and on her, and allow us to live together to a happy old age.” [B-5](#).
6. ***Virtues of a worthy spouse** (Proverbs 31:10-13, 19-20, 30-31): “When one finds a worthy wife, her value is far beyond pearls.” [B-6](#)
7. **A biblical love song** (Song of Songs 2:8-10, 14, 16; 8:6-7): “Set me as a seal on your heart, as a seal on your arm; For stern as death is love, relentless as the nether-world is devotion; its flames are a blazing fire. Deep waters cannot quench love, nor floods sweep it away.”. [B-7](#).
8. ***The qualities of a good spouse** (Sirach 26:1-4, 13-16): “A gracious wife delights her husband, her thoughtfulness puts flesh on his bones.” [B-8](#).
9. **God's covenant with his people as a model for the marriage covenant** (Jeremiah 31:31-32a, 33-34a): “But this is the covenant which I will make

with the house of Israel after those days, says the LORD. I will place my law within them, and write it upon their hearts; I will be their God, and they shall be my people.” [B-9](#).

Options for the Second Reading (New Testament)

1. **The depth of God's love** (Romans 8:31-35, 37-39): “For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor present things, nor future things, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.” [D-1](#).
2. **A summary of Christian life.** (Romans 12:1-2, 9-18 [long form] or Romans 12:1-2, 9-13 [short form]): “Let love be sincere; hate what is evil, hold on to what is good; love one another with mutual affection; anticipate one another in showing honor.” [D-2](#).
3. **In harmony with one another** (Romans 15:1b-3a, 5-7, 13) “May the God of endurance and encouragement grant you to think in harmony with one another.” [D-3](#).
4. **The sanctity of the body** (1 Corinthians 6:13-15, 17-20): “Do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, whom you have from God, and that you are not your own? For you have been purchased at a price. Therefore glorify God in your body.” [D-4](#).
5. **The qualities of love** (1 Corinthians 12:31 - 13:8). “Love is patient, love is kind. It is not jealous, is not pompous, it is not inflated, it is not rude, it does not seek its own interests, it is not quick-tempered, it does not brood over injury, it does not rejoice over wrongdoing but rejoices with the truth.” [D-5](#).
6. ***Marriage compared to the relationship between Christ and the Church** (Ephesians 5:2, 21-33 [long form] or Ephesians 5:2, 25-32 [short form]): “As the Church is subordinate to Christ, so wives should be subordinate to their husbands in everything. Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ loved the Church and handed himself over for her to sanctify her.” [D-6](#).
7. **The peace of God will guard your hearts** (Philippians 4:4-9) “Rejoice in the Lord always.” [D-7](#).
8. **Love perfects all virtues** (Colossians 3:12-17): “And over all these put on love, that is, the bond of perfection.” [D-8](#).
9. **Let marriage be honored among all** (Hebrews 13:1-4a, 5-6b. “I will never forsake you or abandon you.” [D-9](#).
10. ***The conduct of Christian wives and husbands** (1 Peter 3:1-9): “Finally, all of you, be of one mind, sympathetic, loving toward one another, compassionate, humble.” [D-10](#).

11. **Love of God requires love of one another** (1 John 3:18-24): “And this is his commandment, that we should believe in the name of his Son, Jesus Christ and love one another, just as he has commanded us.” [D-11](#).
12. **God is love** (1 John 4:7-12): “Beloved, let us love one another, because love is of God; everyone who loves is begotten of God and knows God. Whoever is without love does not know God, for God is love.” [D-12](#).
13. **The wedding feast of the lamb** (Revelation 19:1, 5-9): “Let us rejoice and be glad and give him glory. For the wedding day of the Lamb has come, his bride has made herself ready.” [D-13](#).

Options for the Gospel Reading

1. **The Beatitudes** (Matthew 5:1-12): “Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.” (verse 3). [F-1](#).
2. **Be salt and light for the world** (Matthew 5:13-16): “Just so, your light must shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your heavenly Father.” [F-2](#).
3. **Build your house on rock** (Matthew 7:21, 24-29 [long form] or Matthew 7:21, 24-25 [short form]): “Everyone who listens to these words of mine and acts on them will be like a wise man who built his house on rock. The rain fell, the floods came, and the winds blew and buffeted the house. But it did not collapse; it had been set solidly on rock.” [F-3](#).
4. **The Greatest Commandment** (Matthew 22:35-40): “He said to him, ‘You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.’ This is the greatest and first commandment. The second is like it: ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’” [F-5](#).
5. ***The wedding at Cana** (John 2:1-11): “Jesus and his disciples were also invited to the wedding. When the wine ran short, the mother of Jesus said to him, ‘They have no wine.’” [F-7](#).
6. **Jesus’ commandment** (John 15:9-12): “This is my commandment, that you love one another as I love you.” [F-8](#).
7. **No greater love** (John 15:12-16): “No one has greater love than this, to lay down one’s life for one’s friends.” [F-9](#).
8. **That they may be one** (John 17:20-26): “As you, Father, are in me and I in you, that they also may be in us, that the world may believe that you sent me. And I have given them the glory you gave me, so that they may be one, as we are one...” [F-10](#).

Wedding Music – Instrumental

Track	Title	Composer	Category
1	Trumpet Voluntary in D Major	Jeremiah Clarke	Processional
2	Trumpet Tune in D Major	Henry Purcell	Processional
3	Canon in D	Johann Pachelbel	Processional
4	Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring	Johann Sebastian Bach	Processional, Prelude
5	Hymn of Joy	Ludwig van Beethoven	Processional, Recessional
6	Rigaudon	Andre Campra	Processional, Recessional
7	Hornpipe Allegro Maestoso	George Frederick Handel	Recessional
8	Wedding March	Felix Mendelssohn	Recessional
9	Rondeau	Jean-Joseph Mouret	Recessional, Processional
10	Trumpet Tune in D Major	David Johnson	Recessional, Prelude
11	Te Deum*	Marc Antoine Charpentier	Recessional, Prelude
12	Psalm XIX	Benedetto Marcello	Recessional
13	Now Thank We All Our God	Arr. By Paul Manz	Recessional
14	Praise to the Lord, the Almighty	Arr.by Paul Manz	Recessional
15	Air	Johann Sebastian Bach	Prelude
16	The King of Love My Shepherd Is	Arr. By Dale Woods	Prelude
17	Andante from Trumpet Concerto*	Giuseppe Tartini	Prelude
18	If Thou Be Near	Johann Sebastian Bach	Prelude
19	I Vow to Thee	Gustav Holst	Prelude
20	Morning Has Broken	Arr. By Paul Manz	Prelude
21	Aria	Antonio F. Teneglia	Prelude
22	All Glory Be to God on High	Arr. By Paul Manz	Prelude
23	Ave Verum	Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart	Prelude
24	Overture from Suite in D Major*	George Frederick Handel	Prelude
25	Brother James' Air	Arr. By Dale Woods	Prelude
26	A Trumpeting	Dale Woods	Prelude
27	Ave Verum	Charles Gounod	Prelude
28	Blest Are They	Arr. By Charles Callahan	Prelude
29	Air	George Frederick Handel	Prelude
30	Panis Angelicus	Cesar Franck	Prelude
31	O Perfect Love*	Arr. By Stan Pethel	Prelude
32	Trumpet Voluntary*	John Stanley	Prelude
33	Processional	Arnold B. Sherman	Processional, Prelude
34	Toccata	Charles Marie Widor	Recessional

Most instrumental music on this list is suitable for organ alone, or optional instrument.

** Suitable only with organ and trumpet.*

Wedding Music – Vocal

Track	Title	Composer	Category
1	Covenant Hymn	Gary Daigle	Prelude
2	Come and Journey With Me	David Haas	Prelude
3	Panis Angelicus*	Cesar Franck	Prelude
4	Make a Joyful Noise	Mark Hayes	Prelude
5	Look at the World*	John Rutter	Prelude
6	The Gift of Love*	arr. by Hal Hopson	Prelude
7	The Lord's Prayer	Alfred Hay Malotte	Prelude
8	A Bridal Prayer*	Roger Copeland	Prelude
9	Laudate Dominum	Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart	Prelude
10	Ave Maria*	Franz Schubert	Prelude
11	Ave Maria	J.S. Bach / Charles Gounod	Prelude
12a**	Psalm 128: Blest Are Those Who Love You	Marty Haugen	Psalm
12b**	Psalm 128: May the Lord Bless You	Marty Haugen	Psalm
13	Taste and See	Marty Haugen	Psalm
14	This is the Day	Michael Joncas	Psalm
15	To You, O Lord	Marty Haugen	Psalm
16	Forever I Will Sing	Tim Schoenbachler	Psalm
17	On Eagle's Wings*	Michael Joncas	Communion
18	Let Us Be Bread*	Thomas Porter	Communion
19	Take and Eat*	Michael Joncas	Communion
20	Now in This Banquet*	Marty Haugen	Communion
21	You Satisfy the Hungry Heart*	Robert Kreutz	Communion
22	Nuptial Blessing: May the Light of Christ*	James Chepponis	Blessing
23	The Lord Bless You and Keep You*	John Rutter	Blessing

* *Suitable for solo or duet.*

**Psalm 128 is one of the readings that explicitly speaks of marriage.

Sample Intercessions

Presider: Nothing can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus. Therefore we boldly lift our prayers to God who is love.

Reader: For the Church, for fidelity in proclaiming the gospel, for faith in good times and in bad, for unwavering commitment to unity: May we never cease to profess boundless love for all creation. We pray to the Lord...

For the world and all peoples, for those without food, shelter, or clothing; for those without meaningful work or meaningful relationships; for those without hope, joy, or peace: May we be a word of comfort for them and a sign of Christ's abundant love. We pray to the Lord...

For our families and friends: for those gathered here and those far away, for those united in love many years and those just beginning, for those we love and those we struggle to love: May Christ deepen our bond to each other in God's strong embrace. We pray to the Lord...

For [bride] and [groom] and all who begin married life today, for peace in times of chaos and confusion; for generosity when there is little to give; for faith in each other and love beyond reason: May their lives be a sacrament of Christ's irrational, irresistible, and invincible love for us all. We pray to the Lord...

For those in need of healing, for those nearing death, for loved ones who have died, and for all who need our prayers, especially those we hold in the silence of our hearts: May nothing ever separate us from the love of God through Christ. We pray to the Lord...

Presider: Faithful God, we have heard your voice in the Word, and seen your love made visible in this couple, so make us now your life-giving presence for the world, and fill us with your unfailing Spirit of love, that the prayers we have offered may come to fulfillment in you. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Wedding Liturgy Workshop: Quick Review

Wedding Rehearsal and Wedding Day:

- Enter the church quietly and with respect for the reverence of this sacred place.
- Bride and groom should be examples of how you want your wedding party to behave.
- Children in the wedding party should be at least 4-5 years old.
- No drinking or smoking on the property.
- No aisle runner, rice, bird seed; bells and bubbles are OK outside afterwards.
- No unity candle. This is better suited for the reception.
- Outside Wedding Coordinators may be used for other events (e.g. showers, bachelor/bachelorette party, and Wedding reception) but not for your rehearsal or wedding ceremony in the church.
- Wedding party should arrive at the church fully dressed because there are no dressing room facilities.
 - There is no cost for use the alcove at the bottom of the stairwell in the church for touchups and adjustments.
 - Aloysius Hall may be rented for an additional fee of \$100.
- Arrive up to 90 minutes before the wedding
 - Children and elderly should arrive about 30 minutes beforehand.
 - It's fine for the bride and groom to see each other before the wedding.
- Plan to make use of time before and after wedding for photography.
 - You have approximately one hour for photos *beforehand* because photos should stop 30 minutes before ceremony begins.
 - Photos should stop 30 minutes after the ceremony.
- After your wedding ceremony:
 - Remove flowers, bows, wedding decorations that you plan to keep; otherwise, they will be thrown away.