

A photograph of a bride in a white dress holding a large bouquet of flowers. The bouquet features several large pink roses, smaller white flowers, and greenery. The background is slightly blurred, showing other people in white attire. A solid blue vertical bar is on the left side of the image.

SAINT ANNE'S MARRIAGE PREPARATION

Please return to the parish.

Welcoming all to encounter Jesus, grow as disciples, reach out in faith and service.

Saint Anne's Parish Wedding Policy

Congratulations on your upcoming wedding! We are excited to celebrate this day with you. Above all, we will work with you to make this a sacred and joyful day that starts you both on a life of faithfulness, love, and new life.

A Catholic wedding is an expression of the Catholic faith. While we know that people requesting weddings come from various backgrounds and stronger or weaker connections to the parish, our goal is that you see your marriage as a reflection of the love of God for us—a love that is forgiving, eternally committed, sacrificial, and with us even if we feel far from it.

We offer this policy as an invitation to you. It describes how we celebrate weddings, and if it's what you want we are happy to work with you.

Step One: Paperwork

You've already started this part. We'll help you go through all the necessary paperwork to make sure you are legally and canonically able to marry. Other forms you'll need to provide to us are:

- For Catholics: A recent (less than 6 months old) baptismal certificate.
- For other baptized Christians: A copy of your baptismal certificate.
- Marriage license: Can be bought for \$60 between 90 days and one day before the wedding. Both of you must be present with two pieces of ID to buy the license.
- Depending on your individual backgrounds, former marriages, different faiths, etc., we may need more than this. We will support you every step of the way.

Step Two: Marriage Preparation

Witness to Love: A six session program in which you meet with a married mentor couple to discuss married life and love.

Step Three: Liturgy Preparation

In this booklet, you'll find everything you need to prepare the ceremony. Fill out the information sheet and contact us with any questions. Please return it to us two weeks before the wedding.

We are committed to providing a meaningful and beautiful wedding. To make sure everything goes smoothly, we want to be sure our expectations are very clear. We are happy to talk about the reasons for the following rules, but the rules themselves won't be changed.

Step Four: Music

Selecting music for a wedding is an important and sometimes difficult thing. Some songs that you love and are important to your relationship may be inappropriate for the wedding but great at the reception.

Your wedding is a sacred moment. We want you and your guests to see in your love something of the great love God has for us. Using the best music available to you – instrumental pieces whose beauty has stood the test of time, hymns that are true poetry set to music, strong acclamations that all can sing from their souls – will set your wedding apart, lead you and your guests into God’s presence, and help us experience your love as a taste of heaven.

Ken Neitz, our parish music coordinator, is responsible for overseeing music selection at all weddings. Please contact him as soon as possible, and he can help you choose music that is beautiful, meaningful, and appropriate for this great day. He can help you find musicians too if you want. You can reach him at 306-955-0341 or kneitz@rcdos.ca

When considering music, please keep in mind the following:

- All music must be either sacred or classical.
 - Just because a song has religious words or thoughts does not make it a work of sacred music. Popular music, love songs, and any music of secular nature are great for the reception but are not appropriate for the wedding ceremony.
- Recorded music will not be used.
- You must have both an instrumentalist and a cantor (to sing the Psalm and Gospel Acclamation).
- At least one musician must be familiar with Catholic weddings.
- The parish will provide a sound technician at a cost of \$50.
 - If your musicians will need a sound tech at the rehearsal, let us know at least two weeks before the wedding and consider increasing their stipend.
- Please tell your musicians: no changing mic cords. Talk to the sound technician.

Step Five: The Ceremony

Please keep in mind the following:

- The order of the procession is flexible, but everyone (bride, groom, wedding party, and any parents you wish to include) will walk down the centre aisle.
- The wedding procession is not the place for toys (wagons, remote control cars, etc.).
- Flower girls and ring bearers are optional.
- The readings need to come from the bible.
- We trust photographers to be unobtrusive. They are welcome to go anywhere except the sanctuary (on the steps), and they should check with the priest before setting up tripods. Videographers must ensure that their work does not interfere with the flow of the ceremony.
- No throwing rice, flower petals, glitter, etc.
- No tape on walls or pews.
- Only service animals allowed in the church.
- Let us know of any particular needs, hearing impaired, vision impaired, etc., and we’ll do our best to accommodate.
- Please assign a few people to tidy up after the wedding. This means removing all wedding items (flower petals, programs, decorations, boxes, etc.) from church and welcome area.
- The church and church grounds are not available for photos except with prior, written approval.

Marriage Preparation

St. Anne's Parish offers a marriage preparation ministry called *Witness to Love* that offers engaged couples the opportunity to partner and journey with a mentor couple to prepare for a healthy, vibrant, lifelong, Christ-centered marriage. Instead of offering marriage preparation classes on certain evenings or weekends, you and your mentor couple work through the *Witness to Love* materials on your own time. Through journeying with your mentor couple, you will gain a deeper understanding of the sacrament of matrimony, develop tools for a healthy marriage, grow in your faith, and build a trusting relationship with your mentors which may last long beyond the wedding day. Although very flexible and rewarding, *Witness to Love* is a big commitment. You should begin meeting with your mentor couple at least 6 months before your wedding.

The success of this program rides on you and your mentor couple. We do strongly recommend that you find your own mentor couple. This will ensure you have a relationship of trust and understanding even before you begin. If you don't know any Catholics who are married, we can give you some tips on how to find yourselves a mentor couple.

How much does it cost?

The program costs \$150.

How do we begin?

The first step is to find a mentor couple who:

- Have a marriage and faith you admire
- Have been Married in the Catholic Church for at least 5 years
- Are active in parish life
- Are not immediate family

Contact Daniel Pettipas to arrange a date for your orientation session:
dpettipas@rcdos.ca
306-931-4700 ext. 224

To learn more about Witness to Love, visit winesstolove.org.

Old Testament (1)

Genesis 1:2-28. 31a

Male and female God created them.

A reading from the book of Genesis.

Then God said,
“Let us make man in our image, according to our likeness;
and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea,
and over the birds of the air,
and over the cattle,
and over all the wild animals of the earth,
and over every creeping thing that creeps upon the earth.”
So God created man in his image,
in the image of God he created them;
male and female he created them.
God blessed them, and God said to them,
“Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth and subdue it;
and have dominion over the fish of the sea
and over the birds of the air
and over every living thing that moves upon the earth.”
God saw everything that he had made,
and indeed, it was very good.

The word of the Lord.

Old Testament (2)

Genesis 2:18-24

They become one flesh.

A reading from the book of Genesis.

Then the LORD GOD said,
“It is not good that the man should be alone;
I will make him a helper as his partner.”
So out of the ground
the LORD GOD formed every animal of the field
and every bird of the air,
and brought them to the man to see what he would call them;
and whatever the man called each living creature,
that was its name.
The man gave names to all cattle,
and to the birds of the air,
and to every animal of the field;
but for the man there was not found a helper as his partner.
So the LORD GOD caused a deep sleep to fall upon the man,
and he slept;
then he took one of his ribs and closed up its place with flesh.
And the rib that the LORD GOD had taken from the man
he made into a woman and brought her to the man.
Then the man said,
“This at last is bone of my bones
and flesh of my flesh;
this one shall be called Woman,
for out of Man this one was taken.”
Therefore a man leaves his father and his mother
and clings to his wife,
and they become one flesh.

The word of the Lord.

Old Testament (5)

Tobit 8:4b-8

Grant that we may grow old together.

A reading from the book of Tobit.

On their wedding night,
Tobias got out of bed and said to Sarah,
“Sister, get up, and let us pray and implore our LORD
that he grant us mercy and safety.”
So she got up,
and they began to pray and implore that they might be kept safe.
Tobias began by saying,
“Blessed are you, O God of our fathers,
and blessed is your name in all generations for ever.
Let the heavens and the whole creation bless you for ever.
You made Adam,
and for him you made his wife Eve as a helper and support.
From the two of them the human race has sprung.
You said, ‘It is not good that the man should be alone;
let us make a helper for him like himself.’
I now am taking this kinswoman of mine,
not because of lust, but with sincerity.
Grant that she and I may find mercy
and that we may grow old together.”
And they both said, “Amen, Amen.”

The word of the Lord.

Old Testament (5a)

Proverbs 31:10-13, 19-20, 30-31

A woman who fears the LORD is to be praised.

A reading from the book of Proverbs.

A capable wife, who can find her?
She is far more precious than jewels.
The heart of her husband trusts in her,
and he will have no lack of gain.
She does him good, and not harm,
all the days of her life.
She seeks wool and flax,
and works with willing hands.
She puts her hands to the distaff,
and her hands hold the spindle.
She opens her hand to the poor,
and reaches out her hands to the needy.
Charm is deceitful, and beauty is vain,
but a woman who fears the LORD is to be praised.
Give her a share in the fruit of her hands,
and let her works praise her in the city gates.

The word of the Lord.

Old Testament (6)

Song of Songs 2:8-10, 14, 16a; 9:6-7

For love is strong as death.

A reading from the Song of Songs.

The voice of my beloved!
Look, he comes,
leaping upon mountains,
bounding over the hills.
My beloved is like a gazelle or a young stag.
Look, there he stands behind our wall,
gazing in at the windows, looking through the lattice.
My beloved speaks and says to me:
“Arise, my love, my fair one, and come away;
O my dove, in the clefts of the rock,
in the covert of the cliff,
let me see your face, let me hear your voice;
for your voice is sweet, and your face is lovely.”
My beloved is mine and I am his,
“Set me a seal upon your heart,
as a seal upon your arm;
for love is strong as death,
passion fierce as the grave.
Love’s flashes are flashes of fire, a raging flame.
Many waters cannot quench love,
neither can floods drown it.”

The word of the Lord.

Old Testament (8)

Jeremiah 31:31-32a, 33-34

*I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel
and the house of Judah.*

A reading from the book of the Prophet Jeremiah.

The days are surely coming, says the LORD,
when I will make a new covenant
with the house of Israel and the house of Judah.
It will not be like covenant that I made with their fathers
when I took them by the hand
to bring them out of the land of Egypt.
But this is the covenant
that I will make with the house of Israel after those days,
says the LORD;
I will put my law within them,
and I will write it on their hearts;
and I will be their God, and they shall be my people.
No longer shall they teach one another, or say to each other,
“Know the LORD,”
for they shall all know me,
from the least of them to the greatest, says the LORD.

The word of the Lord.

New Testament (1)

Romans 8:31b-31, 37

Who will separate us from the love of Christ?.

A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Romans.

Brothers and sisters:

If God is for us, who is against us?

He who did not withhold his own Son,

but gave him up for all of us,

will he not with him also give us everything else?

Who will bring any charge against God's elect?

It is God who justifies.

Who is to condemn?

It is Christ Jesus, who died,

yes, who was raised,

who is at the right hand of God,

who indeed intercedes for us.

Who will separate us from the love of Christ?

Will hardship, or distress, or persecution,

or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword?

No, in all these things we are more than conquerors

through him who loved us.

The word of the Lord.

New Testament (2)

Romans 12:1-2, 9-18

Present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God.

A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Romans.

I appeal to you, brothers and sisters,
by the mercies of God,
to present your bodies as a living sacrifice,
holy and acceptable to God,
which is your spiritual worship.
Do not be conformed to this world,
but be transformed by the renewing of your minds,
so that you may discern what is the will of God—
what is good and acceptable and perfect.
Let love be genuine; hate what is evil, hold fast to what is good;
love one another with mutual affection;
outdo one another in showing honour.
Do not lag in zeal, be ardent in spirit, serve the Lord.
Rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer.
Contribute to the needs of the saints;
extend hospitality to strangers.
Bless those who persecute you;
bless and do not curse them.
Rejoice with those who rejoice,
weep with those who weep.
Live in harmony with one another;
do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly;
do not claim to be wiser than you are.
Do not repay anyone evil for evil,
but take thought for what is noble in the sight of all.
If it is possible, so far as it depends on you,
live peaceably with all.

The word of the Lord.

New Testament (2a)

Romans 15:1b-3a, 5-7, 13

Welcome on another just as Christ has welcomed you.

A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Romans.

Brothers and sisters:

We ought not to please ourselves.

Each of us must please our neighbour
for the good purpose of building up the neighbour.

For Christ did not please himself.

May the God of steadfastness and encouragement
grant you to live in harmony with one another,

in accordance with Christ Jesus,

so that together you may with one voice

glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Welcome one another, therefore, just as Christ has welcomed
you,

for the glory of God.

May the God of hope

fill you with all joy and peace in believing,

so that you may abound in hope

by the power of the Holy Spirit.

The word of the Lord.

New Testament (4)

1 Corinthians 12:31 – 13:8a

Faith, hope and love abide; the greatest of these is love.

A reading from the first Letter of Saint Paul to the Corinthians

Brothers and sisters,
strive for the greater gifts.
And I will show you a still more excellent way.
If I speak in the tongues of human beings and of Angels,
but do not have love,
I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal.
And if I have prophetic powers,
and understand all mysteries and all knowledge,
and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains,
but do not have love, I am nothing.
If I give away all my possessions,
and if I hand over my body so that I may boast,
but do not have love, I gain nothing.
Love is patient; love is kind;
love is not envious or boastful or arrogant or rude.
It does not insist on its own way;
it is not irritable or resentful;
it does not rejoice in wrongdoing,
but rejoices in the truth.
It bears all things, believes all things,
hopes all things, endures all things.
Love never ends.

The word of the Lord.

New Testament (4a)

Ephesians 4:1-6
One body and one spirit.

A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Ephesians.

Brothers and sisters:

I, the prisoner in the Lord,
beg you to lead a life worthy of the calling
to which you have been called,
with all humility and gentleness, with patience,
bearing with one another in love,
making every effort to maintain the unity of the Spirit
in the bond of peace.

There is one body and one Spirit,
just as you were called to the one hope of your calling,
one Lord, one faith, one baptism,
one God and Father of all,
who is above all and through all and in all.

The word of the Lord.

New Testament (5)

Ephesians 5:2a, 21-33

This is a great mystery, and I am applying it to Christ and the Church.

A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Ephesians.

Brothers and sisters:

Live in love, as Christ loved us, and gave himself up for us.

Be subject to one another out of reverence for Christ.

Wives, be subject to your husbands as you are to the Lord.

For the husband is the head of the wife

just as Christ is the head of the Church,

the body of which he is the Saviour.

Just as the Church is subject to Christ,

so also wives ought to be, in everything, to their husbands.

Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ loved the Church

and gave himself up for her, in order to make her holy

by cleansing her with the washing of water by the word,

so as to present the Church to himself in splendour,

without a spot or wrinkle or anything of the kind—

yes, so that she may be holy and without blemish.

In the same way, husbands should love their wives

as they do their own bodies.

He who loves his wife loves himself.

For no one ever hates his own body,

but he nourishes and tenderly cares for it,

just as Christ does for the Church,

because we are members of his body.

“For this reason a man will leave his father and mother

and be joined to his wife, and the two will become one flesh.”

This is a great mystery,

and I am applying it to Christ and the Church.

The word of the Lord.

New Testament (5-shorter)

Ephesians 5:2a, 25-33

Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ loved the Church.

A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Ephesians.

Brothers and sisters:

Live in love, as Christ loved us
and gave himself up for us.

Husbands, love your wives,
just as Christ loved the Church
and gave himself up for her,
in order to make her holy

by cleansing her with the washing of water by the word,
so as to present the Church to himself in splendour,
without a spot or wrinkle or anything of the kind—
yes, so that she may be holy and without blemish.

In the same way, husbands should love their wives
as they do their own bodies.

He who loves his wife loves himself.

For no one ever hates his own body,
but he nourishes and tenderly cares for it,
just as Christ does for the Church,
because we are members of his body.

“For this reason a man will leave his father and mother
and be joined to his wife,
and the two will become one flesh.”

This is a great mystery,
and I am applying it to Christ and the Church.

The word of the Lord.

New Testament (5a)

Philippians 4:4-9

The God of peace will be with you.

A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Philippians.

Brothers and sisters:

Rejoice in the Lord always;

again I will say, Rejoice.

Let your gentleness be known to everyone.

The Lord is near.

Do not worry about anything,

but in everything

by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving

let your requests be made known to God.

And the peace of God,

which surpasses all understanding,

will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Finally, brothers and sisters,

whatever is true, whatever is honourable,

whatever is just, whatever is pure,

whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable,

if there is any excellence

and if there is anything worthy of praise,

think about these things.

Keep on doing the things that you have learned

and received and heard and seen in me,

and the God of peace will be with you.

The word of the Lord.

New Testament (6)

Colossians 3:12-17

Above all, love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony.

A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Colossians.

Brothers and sisters:

As God's chosen ones, holy and beloved,
clothe yourselves with compassion,
kindness, humility, meekness, and patience.

Bear with one another and,
if anyone has a complaint against another, forgive each other;
just as the Lord has forgiven you,
so you also must forgive.

Above all, clothe yourselves with love,
which binds everything together in perfect harmony.

And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts,
to which indeed you were called in the one body.

And be thankful.

Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly;
teach and admonish one another in all wisdom;
and with gratitude in your hearts
sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs to God.

And whatever you do, in word or deed,
do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus,
giving thanks to God the Father through him.

The word of the Lord.

New Testament (8)

1 John 3:18-24

Let us love in truth and action.

A reading from the first Letter of Saint John.

Little children, let us love,
not in word or speech, but in truth and action.
And by this we will know that we are from the truth
and will reassure our hearts before him
whenever our hearts condemn us;
for God is greater than our hearts,
and God knows everything.
Beloved, if our hearts do not condemn us,
we have boldness before God;
and we receive from him whatever we ask,
because we obey his commandments and do what pleases him.
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.
Whoever obeys his commandments abides in him,
and he abides in them.
And by this we know that he abides in us,
by the Spirit that he has given us.

The word of the Lord.

New Testament (9)

1 John 4:7-12

God is love.

A reading from the first Letter of Saint John.

Beloved,
let us love one another,
because love is from God;
everyone who loves is born of God and knows God.
Whoever does not love does not know God,
for God is love.
God's love was revealed among us in this way:
God sent his only Son into the world
so that we might live through him.
In this is love,
not that we loved God but that he loved us
and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins.
Beloved, since God loved us so much,
we also ought to love one another.
No one has ever seen God;
if we love one another, God lives in us,
and his love is perfected in us.

The word of the Lord.

New Testament (10)

Revelation 19:1, 5-9:1

Blessed are those invited to the marriage supper of the Lamb.

A reading from the book of Revelation.

After this I, John, heard what seemed to be the loud voice
of a great multitude in having saying,

“Hallelujah!

Salvation and glory and power to our God.”

And from the throne came a voice saying,

“Praise our God, all you his servants,
and all who fear him, small and great.”

Then I heard what seemed to be the voice of a great multitude,
like the sound of many waters

and like the sound of mighty peals of thunder, crying out,

“Hallelujah!

For the Lord our God the Almighty reigns.

Let us rejoice and exult

and give him the glory,

for the marriage of the Lamb has come,

and his bride has made herself ready;

to her it has been granted to be clothed

with fine linen, bright and pure” —

for the fine linen is the righteous deeds of the saints.

And the Angel said to me,

“Write this:

Blessed are those

who are invited to the marriage supper of the Lamb,”

The word of the Lord.

Prayers of the Faithful

When preparing the Prayers of the Faithful, choose two from A, and four from B. There is room for some flexibility (choosing more or less than the suggested number) and creativity (writing your own) if you want. Please check with the priest before doing anything drastic.

Please note: You will need to type out and print your Prayers of the Faithful. You can find a digital copy of this document at saintannes.ca to cut and paste from as well.

A – FOR THE SPOUSES

That N. and N., newly joined in Holy Matrimony,
may always enjoy health and well-being,
we pray to the Lord.

R. Lord, hear our prayer.

That God will bless the covenant of N. and N.,
as he chose to sanctify marriage at Cana in Galilee
we pray to the Lord.

R. Lord, hear our prayer.

That N. and N. be granted perfect and fruitful love,
peace, and strength
and that they bear faithful witness to the name of Christian,
we pray to the Lord.

R. Lord, hear our prayer.

For this bride and groom,
and for their well-being as a family,
we pray to the Lord.

R. Lord, hear our prayer.

B – FOR OTHERS

That the grace of the Sacrament
will be renewed by the Holy Spirit
in all married persons here present,
we pray to the Lord.

R. Lord, hear our prayer.

For all who are married in the Lord,
that God will help them grow in love
and sustain them in their efforts to give of themselves to others,
we pray to the Lord.

R. Lord, hear our prayer.

For young people preparing to enter Marriage,
and for all whom the Lord is calling to another state in life,
we pray to the Lord.

R. Lord, hear our prayer.

For the Church, the holy People of God,
and for unity among all Christians,
we pray to the Lord.

R. Lord, hear our prayer.

That the Christian people
may grow in virtue day by day
and that all who are burdened by any need
may receive the help of grace from above,
we pray to the Lord.

R. Lord, hear our prayer.

For all families throughout the world
and for lasting peace among all people,
we pray to the Lord.

R. Lord, hear our prayer.

For the relatives and friends of N. and N.
and for all who have assisted this couple,
we pray to the Lord.

R. Lord, hear our prayer.

For all members of our families
who have passed from this world,
(*optional: especially _____*¹)
and for all the departed,
we pray to the Lord.

R. Lord, hear our prayer.

¹ Here you can name individual people who have died if you wish.