



## HOLY SACRAMENT OF MATRIMONY

### GOOD SHEPHERD CATHOLIC CHURCH

PASTOR:  
REV. MICHAEL VAUGHAN

PAROCHIAL VICAR:  
REV. DAVIS KOOTTALA

WEDDING COORDINATORS  
MENCHIE CABRERA  
ALICE GORE  
KATHY PADILLA  
JUANITA BAIER

9539 RACQUET COURT  
ELK GROVE, CA 95758  
916-684-5722 \* 916-684-4472 FAX  
[www.GSCCEG.ORG](http://www.GSCCEG.ORG)

### There is a Wedding at Cana ...

#### With or Without Mass?

The full grace of the Sacrament of Matrimony is present at both wedding celebrations, with Mass and a Ceremony only (with Mass taking 1.5 hours & without Mass taking 1 hour).

#### Times Offered:

Weddings are celebrated on Fridays at 5:00 PM & Saturdays at 11:00 AM or 1:00 PM in the church. No weddings are celebrated during Lent.

"I will espouse you to me forever: I  
will espouse you in right and in  
justice, in love and in mercy; I will  
espouse you in fidelity, and you shall  
know the LORD."



Hosea 2: 21-22

# THE



# Marriage PREPARATION PROCESS

## Six-Month Marriage Preparation Period

To ensure that the engaged couple have adequate time to prepare, contact must be made at least 6 months in advance of the couple's wedding date.

## Requirements

-Initial contact with our Parish Office (by phone) followed by scheduling an initial interview with the Priest or Parish Advocate to begin the marriage preparation process.

-Documents needed:

- ☐ Pre-Marriage Testimony (Form A)
- ☐ Pre-Nuptial Witness Testimony (Form B)
- ☐ Baptismal Certificates (Catholic party must submit a Baptismal Certificate issued within the six-month period prior to your wedding and include notations.
- ☐ If either party has been previously married, a marriage record, a death certificate or an ecclesiastical declaration of nullity must be submitted (*Dispensation from any marriage impediment must be obtained.*)
- ☐ Dispensation (If needed on behalf of the Catholic party)
- ☐ Interview by the presiding priest for spiritual guidance and confession.
- ☐ Outside priests are welcome at Good Shepherd, but must first be approved by the Pastor. Visiting priests from outside the diocese must provide a *Letter of Good Standing*.
- ☐ Marriage License: You are required to obtain the marriage license at the Courthouse in the California state. Marriage licenses are valid for 90 days from the date of issuance. If you do not get married within 90 days, the license will no longer be valid. Good Shepherd Parish Office will return the original marriage license to the County Recorder within 10 days of the date of the ceremony. You will NOT receive a copy of your marriage license after you have been married unless you request and pay for a certified copy from the County Recorder.

## Marriage Prep Classes

- ☐ Attend a Premarital Assessment or Inventory (FOCCUS, Prepare/Enrich, PMI, or Fully Engaged)
- ☐ Attend a Parish-Based Marriage Preparation Class
  - Attend our one full day of parish-based Pre-Cana class intended to reflect the perspective of the Catholic Church. The cost of the class is \$250/couple for registered parishioners and \$300/couple for non-parishioners
- ☐ Or you can do a weekend Retreat called Catholic Engaged Encounter.
- ☐ Attend a Natural Family Planning Class (overview lesson)

## Catholic Wedding Etiquette

- **Attire** - Choosing appropriate attire for Mass shows that we not only respect the importance of the Mass, but we respect our fellow worshippers as well, by dressing modestly and avoiding any type of clothing that they may find distracting.
- **Cell Phone and other Electronic Devices** - If it is at all possible, these modern communication gadgets should be left at home or turned off during Mass. A ringing or beeping distracts from the sanctity of the Mass. Except for true emergencies, any calls should be able to wait at least until the conclusion of Mass.
- **Arrival and Entrance Protocol** - Our arrival time and our first gestures upon arrival should reflect our attitude toward the Mass. Upon entering a Catholic church, three gestures immediately distinguish Catholic worshippers: dipping our finger into the holy water, making the sign of the cross, and genuflecting. None –Catholics entering a Catholic church need not attempt to imitate these gestures but may instead just proceed quietly to a pew.

- **To Receive Holy Communion or Not to Receive** - If you are Catholic in the state of grace, you may receive Holy Communion in the hand or tongue. If you are **NOT** Catholic, children who have **NOT** yet received their 1st Holy Communion, and for any spiritual reasons choose to REFRAIN from receiving the Precious Body of Christ, you may choose to receive a "Blessing" instead by crossing your arms as you approach the priest, and he will pray over you.
- **General Decorum** - Quietness, dignity, and attentiveness are key ingredients to appropriately reverent behavior. The Holy presence of God and the gifts of reverence and silence are most valued.
- **No food or drink** to be taken inside the church.
- **No Smoking** in the church or church parking area.
- **Wedding rehearsals** are limited to one hour, and participants are encouraged to be on time to utilize their full hour of use of the church.
- **Church decorations** are limited to a minimum.

## Fees for Wedding:

- The wedding fee of \$800.00 includes document preparation, wedding rehearsal, and use of the Church facilities (due one month before the date of the wedding). A \$100 non-refundable down payment is required to save the date.
- \$20.00: For each of two altar servers assisting the priest during the mass or ceremony.
- \$250.00: Customary love offering to the presiding priest.
- Contact the musician for the fee.

## Good Shepherd Music Contact:

John and Mary Palmer – [wepalmers5@comcast.net](mailto:wepalmers5@comcast.net)

Mike Pott – [mpott@surewest.net](mailto:mpott@surewest.net)

Rogeniv Mamauag – [rodge.mamauag@gmail.com](mailto:rodge.mamauag@gmail.com)

Matthew Mamauag – [matthew.marcel35@gmail.com](mailto:matthew.marcel35@gmail.com)