

Wedding & Convalidation Information

At St. Mary Magdalene, we are honored to accompany couples as they prepare for the Sacrament of Matrimony. **The Catholic Church does not charge for the celebration of a sacrament.** The fees listed below are not sacramental fees. They are facility use fees that help offset the costs associated with hosting weddings and convalidations on our campus, including utilities, custodial services, building maintenance, event coordination, and facility preparation.

Wedding & Convalidation Fees

Active & Supporting Parishioners

Couples (or their parents) who have been active, supporting members of St. Mary Magdalene Parish for at least **six months** at the time of booking are eligible for the following facility use fees:

- **Wedding:** \$500
- **Convalidation:** \$300

Non Parishioners

For couples who are not active, supporting parishioners of St. Mary Magdalene, the facility use fees are:

- **Wedding:** \$1,000
- **Convalidation:** Contact the Pastor

Weddings Held at Another Location

If your wedding will take place at another parish or venue, but St. Mary Magdalene is handling your marriage preparation and required paperwork, there is a:

- **\$200 Administrative Fee**

Music Fees

The following fees apply when music is provided by St. Mary Magdalene:

- **Pianist:** \$250
- **Cantor:** \$125 to \$150

Music fees are in addition to the applicable wedding or convalidation facility use fee.

Payment Information

All fees are due within 30 days of the confirmed booking. Your full payment may be taken care of via our [Giving Portal](#) or by check. Please be sure to include your wedding date in the optional

memo section on the Giving Portal, and email hoffman@stmm.me when the online payment has been made.

Checks should be made payable to:

St. Mary Magdalene Church

and mailed to:

Attn: Julie Hoffman

625 Magdala Place

Apex, NC 27502

Please include your wedding date with your payment.

Wedding Schedule

Weddings are typically celebrated at the following times:

- **Saturdays:** 11:00 AM or 2:00 PM
 - Rehearsals are held Friday evenings beginning at 5:00 PM.
- **Friday evenings**
 - Rehearsals are held Thursday evenings.

Other weekdays may be available upon request. Weddings are **not** scheduled on Sundays.

Marriage Preparation Timeline

4–6 Months Before Your Wedding

- Contact the Marriage Preparation Coordinator, **Katie Lowell**, at katieannlowell@gmail.com.
- Review the Marriage Preparation steps.
- Begin completing the required paperwork.
- Schedule your Prenuptial Investigation with a St. Mary Magdalene priest or deacon, as outlined by the Diocese of Raleigh.

3–6 Months Before Your Wedding

Plan Your Ceremony

Music

- Contact **Andrew Witchger**, Music Director, at music@stmm.net to begin planning your wedding music.
- Please do not contact outside musicians until you have received approval from the Music Director.

- The Music Director can provide recommendations for cantors, vocalists, and instrumentalists.
- Musician fees are paid directly through the Music Director and are not set by the parish.

Scripture Readings

- Choose your Scripture readings using the *Together for Life* booklet provided by the Wedding Coordinator or view it online.
- The priest will select the remaining prayers and liturgical texts.

Marriage License

- Obtain your North Carolina Marriage License from any county Register of Deeds no more than **60 days before your wedding**.
- Both the bride and groom must be present when applying.
- Bring your marriage license to the wedding rehearsal and give it to the Wedding Coordinator. The priest will return the completed license to the county following the wedding.

1 Month to 2 Weeks Before Your Wedding

- Complete the Ceremony Overview form provided by the Wedding Coordinator.
- Email the Wedding Coordinator to schedule a final meeting to review your ceremony details.
- Prepare a draft of your wedding program (worship aid) and submit it to the Wedding Coordinator for review before printing.

Most couples choose to provide guests with a worship aid. A template is available upon request.

Contact Information

Pastor

Fr. Randy Gonzales
pastor@stmm.net

Wedding Coordinators

Amy Fisher & Stephanie Laird
weddings@stmm.net

Sacrament Coordinator

Sarah Sansone
sansone@stmm.net

Marriage Preparation Coordinator

Katie Lowell
katieannlowell@gmail.com

Music Director
Andrew Witchger
music@stmm.net