Sacrament of Holy Matrimony

All Roman Catholics are required by Church law to be married in a Church building. This is because the Catholic Church understands marriage as a Sacrament, not a fantasy or a trial run with limited fidelity.

To fulfill this expectation a Catholic must:

- 1. Be a registered & practicing member of a local parish
- 2. Have received the Sacrament of Confirmation
- 3. Be of legal age by Church and state law.

Couples desiring to enter into the vocation of Christian married life must contact the pastor at least 6 months before the possible date of the wedding. A wedding date may not be set until the couple has met with the priest conducting the ceremony. Ordinarily, marriages are not celebrated during the Season of Lent.

If either of the parties intending to marry has been a part of a previous marital union, no date can be set for a future wedding until the previous bond has been set aside through a process conducted by the Matrimonial Tribunal. This process is often times referred to as the "annulment process". Please let the pastor know in the very first meeting if any previous marital bonds exist.