Getting Married at St. Mary, Our Lady of the Annunciation
Please note it is expected that the marriage will be performed at St. Mary in Rockwood

Engaged couples are welcome to share the sacrament of marriage at St. Mary if at least one party has been a registered parishioner of St. Mary or another Catholic parish for at least 6 months prior to the initial meeting. Registration must be in the name of one of the parties to be married. If you belong to another parish you will need a letter of permission from your pastor. You should begin your preparation **at least 6 months** before the anticipated wedding date.

The Presider for the wedding may be a Priest or Deacon. Because of the nature of priestly ministry schedules may change with very little notice. Among the duties Deacons are called to perform is that of blessing and celebrating the rite of Marriage. We are privileged to have Deacons available to assist the Priest of this parish by performing this rite.

In order to facilitate the preparation for your wedding the following is a list of what will be expected of the couple. Please remember that we are a Catholic church and as such uphold the teachings of the faith. If you are not in agreement with, or are not living according to the teachings of the church, wedding preparation cannot begin.

- **ALL** prior marriages (even those between non-Catholics or those not conducted in the Catholic Church) need to be resolved before marriage preparation can begin. This should be completed as soon as possible and may take more than 6 months.
- Schedule an initial meeting through the parish office with a priest or deacon. Generally the Pre-Marriage form of the Archdiocese of Detroit (A-Form) will be completed at the initial meeting but **a date can not be set at this meeting**.
- Provide the parish office with baptismal certificates issued within the last 6 months for **all baptized individuals**, unless they were baptized at St. Mary Parish. Baptismal certificates can be obtained by calling your parish of baptism and making the request.
- Take a pre-marriage inventory that will form the basis for some of the additional discussion. Once the office receives responses from both members of the engaged couple the next meeting with a priest or deacon will be set to discuss the results of the inventory.
- Attend an approved marriage preparation program, one is listed below, please contact them directly to make arrangements. If there is another marriage preparation program you desire you must receive approval from the priest or deacon before taking the class. The class must be completed at least 4 months prior to the anticipated wedding date.

The Pre-Marriage Seminar
A daylong program that is live via zoom will assist you in preparing for marriage. This, or another approved program, is a requirement for couples planning to marry at St. Mary. You can register for the date convenient to you at premarriageseminar.com to register

- Attend an NFP class based on the method of NFP you prefer to be trained on. The following website can assist you with finding a class and answering most questions you may have aod.org/nfp

- If you are not a member of St. Mary Parish you will need a letter of permission from the pastor of your parish at least 2 months before the wedding date.

- Cost for marriage preparation is $125 payable to St. Mary and due at or before the final meeting. Additional fee will apply for pre-marriage seminar and NFP classes payable to the organization providing the class.

- Read and understand all handout material which will be discussed during your meetings with the priest or deacon

- Mr. Phil Wawrzyniec is the parish musician and Janice Priest is the soloist they work as a team and will be at all weddings unless prior arrangements are made and approved by Fr Jim Rafferty. Phil can be reached at 734 308 3926 to discuss his and Janice's fee.

- Bring the wedding license to parish office at least one week before date of wedding.

If at any time during the process you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact the parish office 734.379.9248 or stmaryrockwood@sbcglobal.net we are here to help.