

# WEDDING PHOTOGRAPHY/VIDEOGRAPHY RULES

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*MARRIAGE is a most sacred vocation in the Catholic Church. **THE WEDDING CEREMONY**, therefore, is a most sacred moment in the lives of the couple and their families and friends and the whole Church. The wedding is first and foremost a **TIME OF PRAYER** and everything done at a wedding must be conducive and respectful of that prayer, or it must be excluded from the ceremony and its environment.*

1. The photographer **must meet the officiant** (priest or deacon) of the wedding before the ceremony starts. The photographer and his/her assistant(s) must obey the directions of the priest or deacon officiating at the ceremony at all times.
2. Photo and video cameras are welcome; however, photographers and videographers are **NOT** allowed anywhere in the sanctuary (the raised area surrounding the altar). The photographer **should be as unobtrusive** as possible. At no time should the photographer stand in anyone's view and prevent anyone from participating fully in the wedding. The photographer should not walk around the church during moments of liturgical silence, solo singing, scripture proclamations, sermon and the like. Flash photography is not allowed during the ceremony itself. Please be sure you communicate this information to your photographer and/or videographer.
3. Posed photographs arranged for after the wedding Mass or Service are allowed provided there is sufficient time before the next service. Wedding party and all persons to be photographed must return to the altar immediately after the ceremony using the side aisle for the return walk. Only those people who are involved in the photos should remain in the church.
4. **Photographic equipment is not to be placed on the altar, ambo (aka pulpit) or any other sanctuary furniture.**
5. **The church will not be responsible for items lost or stolen.**

THANK YOU FOR COOPERATING in the prayerful celebration of the wedding!