

YOUR WEDDING AT THE CATHEDRAL-BASILICA OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

Welcome to the Cathedral-Basilica of the Immaculate Conception. We are honored that you have chosen this magnificent and historic Cathedral as the setting for your marriage in the Catholic Church.

Your initial contact will be with Mr. James Wetzel in the Cathedral Parish office at 251-434-1565 to check dates and times for availability of weddings.

After the wedding is booked, the wedding party shall make arrangement with a priest or deacon to perform the ceremony and work with him to complete the pre-nuptial investigation and any marriage preparation as needed. We need the name and contact information for the priest / deacon three months before the wedding.

Rennie Brabner, our wedding coordinator will be available to go over various aspects of your wedding celebration. Your discussions will address marriage preparation, music and musicians, photography, flowers and other Cathedral policies including proper etiquette for the wedding party. Mr. Brabner can be reached at 251-377-0259 or at renniebrabner@bellsouth.net.

Cathedral-Basilica is located at: 2 S. Claiborne Street
Mobile, AL 36602

Cathedral Office: The Portier House on Cathedral Square,
307 Conti Street, Mobile, AL 36602

FACTS ABOUT THE CATHEDRAL-BASILICA

The Cathedral has a seating capacity of approximately 600. We prefer that weddings not be scheduled during the Lenten season. Weddings are typically scheduled on Saturdays at 10:00 AM, 2:00 PM, 6:30 PM, or 7:00 PM.

The Cathedral has no bridal dressing room. A small room (ordinarily used as the Confessional) is reserved for the bride and her attendants to wait before the wedding begins. The Portier House across the street from the Cathedral on the corner of Conti and Claiborne Streets can be rented dressing and/or as a reception venue as well.

Public parking is available on the streets around the Cathedral. Likewise, the parking lot on the corner of Franklin and Dauphin Streets is available for all weddings held at the Cathedral for a fee of \$200. The Cathedral is equipped with bells that will ring at the end of ceremony.

MUSIC and MUSICIANS

Music Director: (251) 434-1573 or cathorganist@yahoo.com

Clint Doolittle, the Cathedral music director will oversee all music and musicians for the service. Please make an appointment with the music office at least **six weeks** prior to the wedding to determine music selections, singers and instrumentalists.

All musicians will be booked and coordinated by the music director who will be responsible for providing appropriate music, music stands and other materials.

All music must be in keeping with the liturgical nature of the ceremony. A list of typical selections will be provided by the music director.

[Click Here for List of Approved Wedding Songs](#)

- * The music director must approve all printed programs before they go to print.
- * Extra planning meeting (more than two) with music director will incur a \$25 fee.
- * If you hire an outside organist, they must first be approved by our organist and you must still pay the \$275.00 fee to our organist. If you choose to hire outside singers, they also must first be approved by our organist and a rehearsal fee of \$25.00/hr is required.

PHOTOGRAPHS

It is permitted to take pictures during the ceremony if it does not interrupt the sacred character of the wedding. **NO POSED PICTURES** are permitted in the Cathedral before or after the wedding.

FLOWERS AND DECORATIONS

Rice, bird seed, flower petals or any other items of congratulatory celebration are **NOT** permitted to be thrown on the church premises or grounds. Flowers, ferns and live potted trees can be used to adorn the sanctuary. Bouquets of cut flowers must be left to decorate the altar for Sunday Masses. The altar is not to be decorated.

FLOWERS AND DECORATIONS CONTINUED...

No adhesive tape is to be used by florists on the end of the pews or on the floor. Florists are to remove all equipment (including candelabra, stands, urns, etc.) immediately after the wedding, especially on Saturday afternoons and evenings so that the church can be readied for Sunday Mass.

If candles are supplied by the florist, a protective floor covering must be provided beneath them so that dripping wax does not mar the sanctuary floor.

If there is another wedding scheduled on the same date, both wedding parties can agree to coordinate using the same flowers (wedding coordinator can provide contact information to both wedding parties).

REHEARSAL

No alcoholic beverages, smoking or gum chewing is allowed on the church premises at any time before, during or after the wedding rehearsal or wedding. We reserve the right to have anyone who appears to be intoxicated removed from the Cathedral premises.

DEPOSITS AND FEES

Your wedding date will be tentatively placed on the church calendar when you request your date, however the date will only be finalized when the deposit and agreement are received within 10 days of initial contact. **The date and time will revert to “open” if the agreement and deposit are not received within 10 days.**

The total cost for a Cathedral wedding is \$1,675.00 (or \$1,575.00 without a Cantor). A deposit of \$675.00 is required when the wedding agreement is submitted to secure the reserved wedding date. The balance of the fee, \$1,000.00 is due and payable 60 days ***prior*** to the wedding date. Weddings will be removed from the calendar if the fees are not received according to the payment schedule as follows:

PAYMENT SCHEDULE

\$675.00 deposit at time of booking

\$1,000.00 due 60 days prior to date of Wedding paid in 4 checks:

- \$525.00 Cathedral Parish (verified parishioners may receive a discount)
- \$275.00 Clinton Doolittle (organist)
- \$100.00 George Ralph (sacristan)
- \$100.00 Cantor (optional and to be discussed with the organist)

Wedding Agreement

Date: _____

On the above date this wedding agreement is being entered into between the Cathedral-Basilica of the Immaculate Conception and the bride and groom listed below.

Date of Wedding: _____ Time: _____.

Required Information:

Priest: _____

A wedding rehearsal of **one hour** will be held on:

Your Phone# _____

Your cell # _____

Date of Rehearsal: _____ Time: _____.

Email Address _____

A deposit of \$675.00 is due when this agreement is submitted to secure this reservation.

If for any reason the wedding date is cancelled, notice will be provided to the Cathedral Office Manager at least 60 days prior to the wedding, otherwise the deposit will be retained by the Cathedral. Also, 60 days prior to the wedding, four (4) separate checks totaling \$1,000.00 are due as listed in the payment schedule on the 3rd page of this agreement.

By affixing their initials below, the bride and/or groom confirm that they have read and understand the wedding policies of the Cathedral-Basilica of the Immaculate Conception and that they and all members of their wedding party including florists and photographers will abide by these policies.

_____ I will contact a priest / deacon and coordinate with his schedule to celebrate this wedding. I will ask about the requirement of a marriage encounter weekend and a pre-nuptial investigation. If a priest from an outside parish is to perform the ceremony, I will call and obtain the proper delegation and forward that to my pastor and then provide this to the Cathedral Parish at least 3 months prior to the Wedding.

_____ I have read the Music and Musicians policies of the Cathedral and will meet with the Cathedral Music Director about 6 weeks prior to my wedding date.

_____ I have read the Photography policies of the Archdiocese of Mobile as they pertain to the Cathedral and will provide notice of these policies to my wedding photographer.

_____ I have read the policies on Flowers and Decorations in the Cathedral and will provide notice of these policies to my florist and decorators.

_____ I have read the policies and information concerning my Wedding Rehearsal at the Cathedral and will provide notice of these policies to my wedding party, taking special note of the restrictions against intoxication, smoking and gum chewing.

For the Cathedral-Basilica of the Immaculate Conception

By: _____

Bride: _____

Groom: _____

Printed Name: _____

Printed Name: _____