

Couple's Information

Wedding Date (Tentative): ____ / ____ / ____
Month Day Year

Groom's name

Address: _____

Telephone: _____

Email: _____

(* Registered in St. Philip Benizi Yes No

Bride's name

Address: _____

Telephone: _____

Email: _____

(* Registered in St. Philip Benizi Yes No

Application Date

Institution of Marriage

Marriage is not merely a civil arrangement, but a divine institution established by God. It is a lifelong covenant between a man and a woman, ordered toward their mutual good and the procreation and education of children. This union is brought about through their free and mutual consent, and when both spouses are baptized, it is elevated by Christ to the dignity of a sacrament. (Can. 1055 §1)

Free to Marry

If one of the parties was previously married – whether in a Catholic or non-Catholic ceremony, civil or non-civil, freedom to marry must be explored.

In order to help divorced and remarried Catholics live sacramental lives, the Church encourages them to pursue the annulment process. Any priest or deacon can provide information and discuss the process with those with interest.

Date & Time for Weddings

Request an initial meeting with your priest, deacon or marriage preparation minister first. During this meeting, marriage documents and other requirements for marriage preparation will be discussed.

Marriage Preparation

The Archdiocese of Atlanta requires about minimum six (6) months of approved marriage preparation, including meeting with clergy and a Pre-Cana program for those who marry in the USA and minimum eight (8) months for those who marry outside the USA.

Please schedule this appointment before reserving a spot for the reception. Wedding dates are scheduled according to the couple's preferences and the availability of the church and parish ministers.

Weddings are scheduled on:

⇒ **Saturdays 10:30 a.m. and 1:00 p.m.**

Weddings are NOT scheduled on Sundays or during certain liturgical seasons—such as Advent and Lent—when the Church discourages or restricts their celebration. The priest or deacon accompanying a couple whose request conflicts with the liturgical calendar will notify the couple immediately so that other arrangements can be made.

Premarital Preparation

The Catholic Church requires that "*persons who enter into marriage be well prepared to undertake such an important and fundamental vocation.*"

Couples are required to participate in either marriage preparation class, so we offer the following options:

❖ Called To Be One (Spanish)

Called to Be One is a Catholic movement, working for the Archdiocese of Atlanta. The group is made up of married couples and volunteer Catholic priests committed to preparing **Spanish-speaking couples** who will marry under the principles and teachings of the Catholic Church. For more information email at LLASUinfo@gmail.com.

❖ Archdiocesan Marriage Prep Programs (English)

This program includes **Life Skills for Couples, Love Again** (for remarriage) and **Marriage as Sacrament** and is grounded in the teaching of the Catholic Church. It integrates sound Catholic anthropology, psychology, and relationship principles applied to marriage and family life. The couples must attend two Saturday's workshops to receive their marriage preparation certificate from the archdiocese. If you have any questions, please contact: Julian Saviano at 404-920 7631 or jsaviano@archatl.com

❖ Catholicmarriageprep.Com (online)

Catholic Marriage Prep Online is the only one-on-one, interactive, mentor-led, on-demand, online Pre-Cana program. Based on the Theology of the Body by St. Pope John Paul II, it is a great resource for marriage preparation or to improve your marriage. For more information and registration click here: <https://catholicmarriageprep.com/courses/online-catholic-marriage-prep>

Required Documents

- **Questionnaire for the groom.**
- **Questionnaire for the bride.**
- **Pre-nuptial Witness Affidavits (2)** for the Bride and (2) for the Groom must be completed and signed in the presence of the Cleric, Minister or Notary.
- **Baptismal Certificate** of the bride and groom, with notations from the Catholic Church issued within the last six months.

- **Confirmation and First Communion Certificate** of both spouses.
- **Marriage License:** State law requires the couple to obtain a Marriage License.
- If Convalidation, an authentic copy of the **Civil Marriage Certificate**.

Other Documents:

- If **either of the two** has had a **previous marriage**, with another person, civilly, they must present a civil certificate of marriage and a divorce decree to process the "Lack of canonical form".
- If **either of them is widowed**, they must present the death certificate of the deceased spouse.
- If **one of the two was previously married in the Church**, must present a decree of nullity of marriage and a divorce certificate.

Fees Associated with the Wedding

- ✓ Registered and active parishioner: **\$250**
- ✓ Registered parishioner at the parish: **\$350**
- ✓ Non-registered parishioner: **\$500**
- ✓ Wedding Coordinator: **\$150**
- ✓ Music: **\$300**
- ✓ Suggested Priest/Deacon Stipend: **\$200**

IMPORTANT

(* If you are NOT a registered member of the parish, we recommend filling out the registration form found in the Gathering Space area in the main church or by registering via online: <https://stphilipbenizi.org/newcomers/>



Saint Philip Benizi
A PARISH OF THE ROMAN CATHOLIC ARCHDIOCESE OF ATLANTA

Sacrament of Marriage



*"Three things will last forever:
faith, hope, and love, and the
greatest of these is love."
(1Cor. 13:13)*

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