

Photography Guidelines for weddings at St Joseph Catholic Church in Moorhead

Welcome to St Joseph's! We are happy that you are here to take pictures of this most holy celebration of the sacrament of marriage.

Because of the number of weddings and other activities that take place in our church, wedding couples have a maximum of four hours for their wedding. This includes the wedding and post wedding. This means that for a 2:30 wedding, for example, you would have access to the facilities from 11:45-3:45, unless a morning funeral is taking place, in which case you would be notified two days in advance. The church must be cleaned and cleared by 3:50 to allow for confessions to begin promptly at 4:00. If more time is needed at the beginning, it will be at an additional \$100 per hour. Pictures should be concluded ½ hour before the wedding begins.

During picture taking, the church should be respected as a holy place, leaving furnishings (presider's chair etc) in place at all times. Pop cans, water bottles and food items are not permitted in the church at any time. The style of pictures taken in the church must reflect the reverence of the church. No jumping is permitted and no items or furniture may be moved or used for props. No items may be placed on the altar at any time. Feel free to use our outdoor grounds for these kinds of spontaneous pictures.

Flash pictures may not be taken during the ceremony because of the distraction and disturbance to the liturgy. Videotaping during the ceremony is acceptable either from the back balcony of the church or from the side aisle. The videographer should be stationary to avoid distraction. The photographer as well, must take care to not to be a distraction to the liturgy, by remaining at a distance from the sanctuary while the wedding is taking place.

Thank you for your cooperation with our policy. We would like to have you return to our church in the future.

If you have any questions, please contact Julie in the liturgy office.

jhardmeyer@stjoesmhd.com 284-6226