



St. Edmund of Canterbury Parish
105 Beaconsfield Blvd.
Beaconsfield, Quebec
H9W 3Z8
514-695-7100

Marriage information

You are inquiring about getting married here at Saint Edmund's.

As a preliminary response to questions you may have, it is hoped that the information presented here will help you by answering basic concerns regarding the process of preparation to be undergone, so as to fulfill the requirements of both the religious and civil dimensions of your engagement and wedding.

The church requires a minimum notice of 6 months prior to a request for the celebration of a wedding. You must have a true relationship with Saint Edmund's, and meet the requirements for the sacrament of Marriage, as laid down in Canon Law.

Before making other plans, it is important to begin the process of preparation with the church. No reservation of a date and time for the celebration can be made until you have met with the one of the parish clergy. At this first appointment the priest or deacon will endeavour to verify that you meet the requirements for Marriage in the Catholic Church.

Documents to be Prepared...

In the province of Quebec, all legal documents to register your marriage are prepared and filed by the place of celebration, in this case, Saint Edmund's. The parish will also file the documents required to obtain the permission of the Bishop to witness your Marriage.

In order to complete your file you will be asked to provide the needed documents...

Baptism certificate...all Christians must provide a certificate of Baptism to be kept in the Marriage file. For Catholics, this must be a new certificate, dated less than 6 months before the date of the wedding. When requesting the document, ask for a certificate "for Marriage purposes." In the event that you were baptized at Saint Edmund's, an extract will not be needed. In this case a search of the registers will provide the information that must be entered into your file.

Confirmation certificate...Catholics must provide a Confirmation certificate. This should normally be part of the Baptism certificate "for Marriage purposes." In the event that your Confirmation does not appear on your Baptism certificate, you will need to obtain a Confirmation certificate from your parish of Confirmation.

A proof of freedom... this should be part of the Baptism certificate for Marriage purposes. For a non Catholic, the testimony of two witnesses who have known the person since the age of majority will be needed. Should there have been a previous Marriage, a document

attesting to the freedom of the individual to celebrate Christian Marriage will be required. This document, depending on the circumstances involved, may include a death certificate, a decree of nullity, a decree of divorce, and the testimony of witnesses. In the event that standard documents can not be obtained, notarized oaths as to the circumstances of one's life may be taken.

Upon the receipt of documentation listed above, the documentation needed to prepare and apply for permission for the celebration of your wedding will be organized.

The Process of Preparation

The Marriage Course is regarded as an essential aspect of marriage preparation in the Archdiocese of Montreal. Toward this end, the priest or deacon will provide you with a selection of courses programs from which you can choose. The program you follow will provide you with a certificate of participation, which you are asked to present to the parish, allowing for an appropriate notation to be made in your file.

Meetings with the priest or deacon...the meetings here at the parish will have a number of purposes.

1. to complete the paperwork referred to in the previous section.
2. to allow the couple and the priest or deacon to get to know each other, allowing both the couple and the church's witness to feel comfortable with each other.
3. to complete the process of Christian formation that the sacrament of Marriage deserves.
4. to plan the Liturgy of Marriage, so as to allow it to be both an expression of the Christian life of the couple as well as a celebration of the community of family and friends gathered to share in the love being proclaimed.

Practical Information

Fees \$500.00 -- covers the cost of registration fees, taxes, and materials. The costs of music and other concerns are not included in the parish fee. You can pay the fee at the parish office any time prior to the wedding.

Music As tastes regarding music often differ, arrangements for music are the responsibility of the couple. It must be remembered, however, that choices must be appropriate for a church, and should be approved by the parish. Should you desire, the parish is prepared to recommend musicians familiar with the Liturgy.

Flowers We recommend that you keep your plans in this regard simple. Flowers can be placed in front of the altar, but not upon it. If you wish to decorate the ends of the pews, please keep in mind that streamers running from pew to pew will not be possible, as this both creates a safety hazard, and impedes the flow of the congregation when the time for the distribution of the Eucharist arrives.

Photography/Videography Those recording the Liturgy are not permitted to enter into the Sanctuary. They are also required to provide a perimeter of 3 meters around the couple. Please advise those you contract to record your wedding day of these instructions. It would also be appropriate to have those you contract to meet with the parish team ahead of time in this

regard. Procedures regarding photography and videography will be strictly enforced, due to past difficulties.

Rehearsal A short visit to the church before the wedding to familiarize those involved in the liturgy with their roles. We encourage you to limit the number of people present at the rehearsal to aid in its smooth execution.

Altar Servers As these young people give up their afternoon to aid in the smooth execution of your wedding, may we suggest an offering of \$10.00 per server for their efforts.

The Sacrament of Reconciliation...

As you approach the moment of your wedding, you are encouraged to go to confession. At this most important moment in your life, to feel the freedom of heart that this sacrament can provide is perhaps one of the greatest gifts that you can give to both yourself as well as your new spouse.

Please be assured of our prayers as you live your engagement over these next months.