

St. Joseph Catholic Church
1294 Makawao Avenue
Makawao, Maui, Hawaii 96768
1 (808) 572-7652 (HST)

Effective February 21, 1996, the following policies and rates will be applied to all weddings held at St. Joseph's Catholic Church in Makawao, Hawaii Catholic Schools

1. Given the sacramental nature of marriage in the Catholic Church, only Catholics may be married in our church (one or both spouses must be baptized Catholic(s)).
2. All weddings are held IN the church building. For practicing Catholics (regularly attend Mass), the wedding may take place within the celebration of the Eucharist. For non-practicing Catholics, the wedding service consists of Scripture reading(s), consent, vows, blessings and exchange of rings and the nuptial blessings. The ceremony should be discussed with the priest during the preparation period.
3. For local couples, we ask that you contact the parish at least 6 months PRIOR to setting the date and/or making other plans. Please understand that the requirement of the Diocese of Honolulu is for the couple to make an Engaged Encounter weekend before the wedding. It is also required that you meet with the priest who will officiate at your wedding at least several times for preparation of the Sacrament of Marriage. For those coming to St. Joseph's from outside Maui, all preparations must be done in your home parish and the paperwork sent to the Chancery Office of the Diocese (1184 Bishop Street, Honolulu, HI 96813) at least one month prior to the wedding date. For those living on Maui, the preparation and paperwork will be done at St. Joseph's. Some documentation will be required.
4. We understand the desire to preserve the wedding on film and tape. However, the ceremony is a Sacrament and celebrated in church and the sacred nature of the service takes precedence over photos. The priest will determine where cameras and the bridal party are allowed. Generally, the photo and video equipment must stay outside the sanctuary (carpeted area) during the ceremony. The church and grounds are available for one hour after the ceremony for pictures.
5. Flowers brought in to decorate the altar area of the church should be left as gifts to God (except during Advent of Lent). Please make sure that the flowers do not block the altar or areas around the altar. Under no circumstances can ribbons, bows or other decorations be stapled, taped or glued to the altars, doors, walls or pews. If ribbons are tied to the pews, they should be removed at the end on the ceremony. Please NO bird seed, rice, neither confetti nor flower petals either in or outside the church. If a white runner is used, use only MASKING TAPE to secure it to the floor.

6. Music chosen for the wedding should be appropriate for a religious ceremony and be religious and/or Hawaiian in nature. Musicians unfamiliar with Catholic weddings should contact the priest at least one month prior to the wedding.
7. Because our church is small and was built many years ago, there is no space to be used as a changing room. Thus the bridal party should come, on time and ready, for the ceremony. There are rest room facilities available.
8. For those who are coming from outside Maui, we ask you to call the Rectory when you arrive on island to make arrangements to meet with the parish priest who will witness your vows and to bring your marriage license with you at that time.
9. The rehearsal should take no longer than one hour and the ceremony will be practiced only once, so please make sure all the necessary people are at the church at the agreed upon time. It is not necessary to have a rehearsal unless the bridal party has more than four people.
10. There is a suggested donation of \$300.00 for the use of the church facility when at least one member of the bridal couple is a current, registered, practicing and financially supporting member of St. Joseph parish community. There is a nonrefundable \$50.00 deposit required to make and hold a date and will be applied to the balance due. The balance should be paid one month prior to the wedding.
11. There is a suggested donation of \$700.00 for the use of the church facility for all non-parishioners of St. Joseph Church. There is a non-refundable \$50.00 deposit required to make and hold a date and will be applied to the balance due. The balance should be paid one month prior to the wedding.
12. It is the responsibility of the wedding party to make sure that the church is cleaned and restored to its original state following the wedding celebration. Since most weddings are on Saturdays, please be aware of the time restrictions on afternoon weddings. We have a 5:00 p.m. Saturday Mass and the parking lot must be clear no later than 4:30 p.m.

Thank you for your consideration of St. Joseph's for your wedding celebration. May your commitment to each other be blessed by God.



Rev. Geronimo Castro, M.S.
Pastor