

ST. ANTHONY CHURCH
312 Locke Rd., Groton NY 13073
607-898-5135

FULL NAME OF GROOM: _____

IS THE GROOM CATHOLIC? YES _____ NO _____

If “Yes,” what is the Groom’s Parish? _____

GROOM’S CONTACT INFORMATION: _____

FULL NAME OF BRIDE: _____

IS THE BRIDE CATHOLIC? YES _____ NO _____

If “Yes,” what is the Bride’s Parish? _____

BRIDE’S CONTACT INFORMATION: _____

PROPOSED DATE OF MARRIAGE: _____

CELEBRANT: _____

- *A separate offering should be made to the celebrant at the rehearsal*

Do you wish to have a Mass? YES _____ NO _____

WITNESS NAME: _____

WITNESS NAME: _____

DATE & TIME OF REHEARSAL: _____

PRENUPTIAL INVESTIGATION FEE: \$20

PARISH FEE: \$150

ORGANIST FEE: \$100

- *Compensation for any **vocalist** will be your responsibility and should be given directly to the individual prior to the day of the ceremony.*
- * *Please be aware that if you have been married before and the previous marriage has not been annulled, that no marriage date can be set until the proper dispensations have been acquired.*

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I am pleased that you have contacted me about being married at St. Anthony Church. During the time we have available, we will do our best to make this period of preparation one that will enrich your future together. I am sending this letter in advance of our meeting in order to clarify the following:

SETTING A DATE:

It is necessary to schedule an appointment for both of you to meet with me as soon as possible. We do not set dates for weddings until we are sure that there are no impediments to a prospective marriage. Any previous marriages of either of the parties, whether celebrated in a civil or religious ceremony, must be addressed through the appropriate canonical process before a date may be set. Saturday weddings will be performed no later than 2:00 p.m.

PREPARATION:

Every couple is expected to participate in one of the diocesan or regional Pre-Cana programs. A schedule of marriage preparation classes can be found on the diocesan website: www.dor.org under the *Sacraments* tab (this includes an on-line option, as well). Additionally, there is to be ongoing dialogue with some member of the parish pastoral staff.

FEES:

There is a \$150 fee for the parish, which includes some of the preparation materials, as well as use of the facilities. This fee is to be paid at the time the date is set for the wedding and is **non-refundable**. There is an additional \$20 fee for the Prenuptial Investigation. A separate offering to the Priest or Deacon performing your ceremony should be given at the time of the rehearsal.

MUSIC:

There is a \$100 fee for the parish organist and should be given at the time of the rehearsal (check payable to St. Anthony Church). Selection of music for your wedding ceremony should be appropriate for a church setting. Some pieces that may have emotional meaning might be better scheduled for the reception, rather than part of the church ceremony.

If you choose to have a cantor, an offering to that individual will be your responsibility and should be given directly to the individual prior to the day of the ceremony.

MINISTRIES:

For your wedding ceremony, we welcome people to proclaim the readings of the Old Testament and New Testament and to present the petitions for the general intercessions. If your wedding is going to include the Eucharist, you may choose people to present the gifts for the celebration (bread, wine and water). You may also select Eucharistic Ministers and Altar Servers, if you desire.

PHOTOGRAPHERS:

People taking photos or videos are asked not to be disruptive of the ceremony. No pictures may be taken from the sanctuary during the ceremony itself.

FLOWERS:

Our church is a beautiful church because of the people who worship here. If flowers are brought in, it is appreciated if the arrangements are left in the church after the ceremony as an offering to our Lord in the Eucharist. No floral arrangements or unity candles are permitted on the altar table itself. Arrangements should be affixed to the pews with plastic pew clips (supplied by the church if you don't have your own). No aisle runners are permitted. If you are going to have a Unity Candle, you must purchase that on your own and bring it to rehearsal.

No confetti, rice, birdseed or other "scatterables" are allowed on the property since we do not have a staff available to clean it up. Please choose a responsible person to remove any items (Unity Candle, pew flowers, etc.) so that the church will be ready for the next service. No alcohol is to be consumed on the property by any of the guests or members of the bridal party, either during the rehearsal or the ceremony. Please refrain from any celebrating until **after** these events.

We are pleased that you have come to this point in your life to be ready to make a commitment of your love to each other. Our goal is to see that this time before your wedding focuses on the important issues of prayer, communication, dialogue and accommodation. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me at 898-5135.

Devotedly yours,

Rev. Eloo Malachy Nwosu
Pastor