Saint Therese of Lisieux Parish
67 South Essex Street - 5027
Montauk, NY 11954
StThereseMontauk.com
631. 668. 2200

Use of the Church

- **Date/time or wedding can only be confirmed after completing a Pre Nuptial Investigation** "PNI" with a priest/deacon from St. Therese of Lisieux or your home parish. Please see "Marriage Checklist" for further information on scheduling your wedding. The priest or a staff member will assist you in scheduling a rehearsal date once your wedding date has been confirmed.

- A Catholic Church is a sacred space and so it must be treated with reverence and respect. Please observe the following policies in our parish churches:

Décor

- Flowers should *not* be placed on the altar, but may be placed around the sanctuary as long as they do not obstruct movement in the sanctuary. Flowers may also be placed around the church.
- **Simplicity and elegance is a good guiding principle**.
- **Flower petals**: We discourage flower petals inside/outside the Church. Fr. Liam does not have time to sweep the floors after each ceremony. **If you insist on petals you must use real white petals (do not stain the tile floor) and use them sparingly (so they are not a safety issue that can cause slipping). Additionally, you must let us know who will be cleaning them up after the wedding (florists usually offer to clean up after a wedding). Please understand that there are other events on the heels of your wedding and that the Church should be clean for the groups that follow.
    - If your wedding takes place in Lent, you may still use floral arrangements, but we ask that the arrangements be sober in appearance. A good benchmark is to make sure arrangements are *not* extravagant and flowers are used sparingly at weddings during the Lenten season.
- **Arrival of florist**. The church doors will be opened one hour before the wedding for the florist. Please keep in mind there may be a wedding before yours and cleanup may be underway before you arrive.
- **Pew decorations** may be used provided that they are attached with rubber bands or ribbon. No tape / adhesive is to be used.
- **Aisle runners**. We do not allow aisle runners as they can be problematic with gowns with trains and high heels.
- **Confetti**. Absolutely no confetti or any other kind of material may be thrown or scattered within the church or on the church property because of the extensive cleaning time and costs involved. We recommend bubbles in place of confetti outside the doors of the church.
- **Cleanup**. Depending on the time of your wedding there will be another wedding or Holy Mass after your ceremony concludes. Please arrange to have someone stay after the wedding to pick up anything left on or in the pews. We appreciate your care of this beautiful, sacred space and for the wedding that may follow your wedding.

Wedding Planners: Please be aware that this is a Church and that there are "house rules." Our marriage ministry team volunteers their time to help on the big day, please be respectful as you interact with them. Any "big decisions" that would have required the discernment of Fr. Liam should have already been discussed between the bride/groom and Fr. Liam beforehand.

Music

- **Hymns and music** selections to be made on the parish website **https://www.sttheresemontauk.com/** under matrimony. Both Google Forms will need to be submitted prior to your wedding.
- Contact our music director with any specific questions:
  Kyle McCann – StThereseMTKmusic@gmail.com

Photography and Video

We want you to have beautiful memories of your wedding ceremony that you can look back on for years to come.

- **Guiding principle**: Photographers and Videographers should always keep in mind that they are working in a sacred space. They should not enter the sanctuary (move beyond the steps leading to the altar) and should be discreet and especially respectful during the Liturgy of the Eucharist.
- **No drones inside the Church**

Comportment

- Please do everything in your power to arrive on time for the rehearsal and the wedding liturgy. Our Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays are busy days and to accommodate everyone we budget brief gaps of time between liturgies.
- Always budget extra time the day of your wedding.
  - **Please arrive on time**. Very often there is another wedding and/or event in the Church after your wedding and in fairness to all parties we cannot postpone other events.
  - **Groom**: we recommend arriving **45minutes early**. This is because most bridal parties make use of the groomsmen to welcome guests and hand out wedding programs.
  - **Bride**: **30 minutes early**.

Food and Drink

- See that no alcohol is served en-route to the wedding or consumed on Church property. This is not simply Church policy, it is a matter of Canon Law: if either bride or groom is under the influence, the marriage would be invalid and the priest would not be able to proceed with the wedding. This prohibition extends to any drugs (even legal drugs) that can impair someone's judgment/consent.
- Bottled water, will be provided to the bride and groom.

Checklist for the Wedding Rehearsal:

- □ Baptismal Certificate for bride and groom
- □ Certificate of completion for Pre-Cana
- □ Marriage License (witnesses will sign at rehearsal)
- □ Church Offering (in not already submitted)