

## **PHOTOGRAPHY**

Your wedding pictures are an important consideration. Through them you will be able to look back on this important day. They also become a very important part of the family archives. When choosing a photographer, professional or amateur, begin early.

If choosing a professional photographer, consider their professional reputation. If you decide to use a family friend or relative, be sure that you can trust this person to give you good results and show respect for the dignity of the occasion. The photographer should not step into or crawl up the aisles, go into the sanctuary, or otherwise disrupt the wedding liturgy. The photographer should be suitably dressed and neither smoke nor drink during the liturgy. The photographer must respect the integrity and sanctity of the church and its furnishings: nothing must be moved.

During the liturgy itself there should be no photography by anyone. This includes the members of the assembly who may have cameras. You must mention this in your program; perhaps a statement (which also addresses another disruption) such as:

***The parish of St. Michael's requests that you respect the sanctity of our wedding liturgy by refraining from flash photography and turning off cell phones.***

Photographs may be taken before and after the liturgy. Arrange the starting time with the priest. It should generally begin about two hours before the liturgy and end at least 45 minutes before the liturgy begins. After the liturgy, photographs must be completed by 4:00 p.m. for Saturday weddings, when celebration of the Sacrament of Reconciliation begins. It is also possible to arrange other times for photos in consultation with the priest.

Video-taping of the wedding ceremony must be done in a sensitive manner so as not to ruin the reverent atmosphere of the occasion. The camera must be stationary in an unobtrusive place, and only available light may be used.