



YOUR WEDDING AT ST. IGNATIUS OF LOYOLA

“Make your wedding a real celebration
– because marriage is a celebration
– a Christian celebration, not a worldly feast! ...

What happened in Cana 2,000 years ago,
happens today at every wedding celebration:
that which makes your wedding full and profoundly
true will be the presence of the Lord
who reveals himself and gives his grace.
It is his presence that offers the ‘good wine’,
he is the secret to full joy,
that which truly warms the heart.

“It is good that your wedding be simple
and make what is truly important stand out.
Some are more concerned with the exterior details,
with the banquet, the photographs, the clothes,
the flowers... These are important for a celebration,
but only if they point to the real reason for your joy:
the Lord’s blessing on your love.”

-Pope Francis,
Address to engaged couples in Rome,
February 14, 2014

Congratulations on your upcoming wedding!

We hope that it will be a joyous and faith-affirming experience for you.

The parish staff is here to guide you through the necessary steps of planning your wedding liturgy.

SCHEDULE YOUR WEDDING DATE

To celebrate a wedding in St. Ignatius Church, either the bride or groom must be a Roman Catholic. Wedding date and time should be made at least six months in advance and is subject to availability.

- Saturday weddings are usually scheduled at 11am, 1:30pm, or 5:30pm, Sundays at 2:30 pm, and Fridays and weekdays are available.
- Availability depends on the need for a presider from St. Ignatius and whether you prefer a Wedding Ceremony or Nuptial Mass (see details below).
- Dates can be affected by the Boston College calendar and other events that limit access to the church.
- You have the use of the church for a total of 2 hours on your wedding day, beginning 30 minutes before your Marriage Ceremony or Nuptial Mass.
- **If you are late for the scheduled time of your wedding, your Ceremony may be shortened, your Nuptial Mass may be omitted, and your selected music may be cut.**
- Rehearsals for weekend weddings are typically held on the Thursday or Friday of that weekend between 4pm - 6pm, subject to availability.

Weddings are not scheduled for major holy days and holidays. This includes:

- New Year's Eve and Day
- Palm Sunday weekend through Easter Sunday
- Thanksgiving
- Christmas Eve and Day
- Memorial Day
- July 4th
- Labor Day
- Patriot's Day

To schedule your wedding, please contact Carol Russo at russocu@bc.edu or 617.552.6102.

OPTIONS FOR MARRIAGE AT ST. IGNATIUS OF LOYOLA

Marriage within the celebration of the Eucharist

The celebration of marriage between two Catholics may be celebrated within the Nuptial Mass which includes the celebration of the Eucharist.

Marriage as a ceremony without a Eucharist

Two Catholics may also choose to celebrate their marriage outside of the Eucharistic celebration.

For a marriage between two Christians, where only one is Catholic, the celebration of marriage without a Eucharist is encouraged. The celebration of marriage without a Eucharist is also encouraged for the marriage of a Catholic and one who has not been baptized.

Con-Validation

A couple married in a civil ceremony may later wish to enter into a valid Catholic marriage. When they are ready to do so, they celebrate what is called a con-validation or the blessing of a marriage. It is important to realize that a con-validation is not merely a renewal of vows made previously, but is a new act of consent. This con-validation of marriage may be celebrated within Mass or outside of Mass, again depending on the particular circumstances of the couple.

PRESIDING AT YOUR WEDDING

A St. Ignatius deacon or priest will be assigned to your wedding. You are also welcomed to have a deacon or priest of your choosing to perform your wedding.

*So they are no longer two, but one. Therefore what God has joined together, let man not separate.
Matthew 19:6*

CHURCH FEES

The church fee is \$1200 and must be paid in full within two weeks of your inquiry day to guarantee your requested date and time. This fee includes:

- All preparations and official filing
- Reserved rehearsal time with our Wedding Coordinator
- Two hours of reserved time for the wedding and photographs

You can pay by check (made payable to St. Ignatius Church)
or by credit card online at <https://giving.parishsoft.com/app/giving/stignatius>, select wedding payment.
If you pay online, please forward the email receipt to russocu@bc.edu.

MUSIC FEE

There is an additional music fee of \$425. The music fee includes:

- Organist/Keyboards
- Cantor

The music fee should be paid in full no later than two weeks before the date of your wedding.

You can pay by check (made payable to St. Ignatius Church)

or by credit card online at <https://giving.parishsoft.com/app/giving/stignatius>, select wedding music payment.

If you pay online, please forward the email receipt to russocu@bc.edu.

Additional musicians are also available for an added fee.

LIVESTREAM SERVICE

St. Ignatius can provide a livestream feed for your wedding. Michael Sennett, our Director of Communications, will create a link that can be viewed at the time of your wedding and at any future date. The live stream fee for a Nuptial Mass is \$525 and the fee for a Wedding Ceremony is \$475. A separate payment would be made directly to Michael Sennett. Please contact Michael directly at sennettm@bc.edu.

STIPENDS

If you have invited your own priest or deacon to celebrate your wedding, it is customary to offer them a stipend between \$150-\$200. It is not necessary to give a staff priest or deacon a stipend, but one would certainly be welcome. It is customary to tip the wedding coordinator.

DATE CANCELLATION

If you cancel your confirmed date and have paid in full, a refund of \$600 will be issued.

Any paid music fees will be refunded.

THE REHEARSAL

Your rehearsal with our Wedding Coordinator is the time to review and finalize all the elements of your wedding at St. Ignatius. The entire wedding party should attend the rehearsal including readers, ushers and anyone else involved in the ceremony.

As previously stated, Rehearsals for weekend weddings are typically held on the Thursday or Friday of that weekend between 4pm - 6pm, subject to availability. Wedding rehearsals are scheduled **for one hour**.

It is important that you and the wedding party be on time for both the rehearsal and the wedding.

The Marriage License and the accompanying pre-addressed envelope must be brought to the wedding rehearsal.

Wedding Programs can be stored at the parish overnight.

*Be devoted to one another in love. Honor one another above yourselves.
Romans 12:10*

BEFORE YOU SAY "I DO", YOU WILL NEED TO DO SOME PAPERWORK!

Newly Issued Baptism Certificates

You each need to contact the church of your baptism to attain a **newly issued** baptismal certificate with the church seal. It can be mailed directly to St. Ignatius Church, 28 Commonwealth Avenue, Chestnut Hill, MA 02467. Copies and scans are not accepted. Note that the baptismal certificates must be dated no earlier than six months before your wedding date.

Complete The Preliminary Interrogatory Forms

Between three to five months before to your wedding, you will need to schedule a meeting with your St. Ignatius Priest or Deacon to complete your Preliminary Interrogatory Forms. During your scheduled meeting, your presider will cover a variety of topics including communication, lifestyle expectations, finances, parenting, religion, etc.

Obtain Any Necessary Dispensation or Decree

- If you are a Catholic who is marrying a baptized non-Catholic (or a non-Christian), you have to receive permission (or a dispensation) to do so.
- If either party, regardless of religious affiliation, has been previously married, he or she will need either a death certificate (if the previous spouse died) or an ecclesiastical decree of nullity (in the case of divorce). Copies of these documents are required.
- Processing these necessary documents with the Archdiocese of Boston can take time depending on the circumstance. Make sure you start the process at minimum two months before your wedding date.

If you are working with your own presider, normally he would complete all necessary paperwork with you and forward all documents to St. Ignatius. They must be received no later than three weeks before your rehearsal date. If your presider is from out of town, special arrangements can be made.

Attend a Pre Cana Program

You are required to complete a Pre Cana program and provide a copy of your Marriage Preparation Course before your PMI meeting. Please email a copy of your certificate upon completion. St. Ignatius does not offer a Pre Cana course, but suggest these marriage preparation programs:

The Paulist Center of Boston offers a marriage prep program.

<http://www.paulistcenter.org/sacraments/adult-sacraments/marriage-adult/>

The Archdiocese of Boston offers a comprehensive review of marriage prep requirements and a listing of Pre Cana courses. www.bostoncatholic.org/FamilyLife

Boston College Office of Campus Ministry offers classes to St. Ignatius parishioners and BC Alumni.

<https://www.bc.edu/content/bc-web/offices/mission-ministry/sites/campus-ministry/liturgy-sacraments/sacraments.html>

OBTAINING A MASSACHUSETTS MARRIAGE LICENSE

Both partners in a marriage must go together, in person, to any Massachusetts city or town clerk to fill out a marriage license application no more than two months before the wedding ceremony. **Once an application has been accepted, there is a three-day waiting period before you receive your marriage license.**

The license is valid for 60 days from the date the application was filed and must be brought to the church on the day of the wedding rehearsal. **There will be no wedding without a license.**

More information is available at: <http://www.mass.gov/portal/residents/getting-married-in-massachusetts.html>.

FORMS FOR A VISITING PRIEST

If you have your own deacon or priest, he will be required to send a **Letter of Good Standing** from his diocese or religious community. If the presider does not reside in Massachusetts, he must obtain a **Non-Resident Clergy Petition** and forward a copy to St. Ignatius. He cannot preside at St. Ignatius without us receiving these two documents before your wedding date. A digital form can be accessed online at <http://www.sec.state.ma.us/pre/prepdf/nonresclergyapp.pdf>.

PLANNING YOUR WEDDING LITURGY

WHO PLANS THE WEDDING?

The Bride and Groom.

To help assure that couples experience the fullness of the Sacrament of Holy Matrimony, our parish policy is to communicate directly with **only** the bride and groom. This helps to ensure the integrity of the marriage process. We respectfully refrain, therefore, from responding to questions or requests from parents, wedding planners or any third parties, even if delegated by the couple.

In advance of the wedding liturgy, couples meet with their presider to begin the planning process. They will receive literature to peruse and select the readings, prayers, and music that reflect their faith in God and each other, as they take their first steps in married life.

TOGETHER FOR LIFE

St Ignatius will provide a copy of “Together for Life”, a guide to planning your wedding in the Catholic Church. It includes all of the information, prayers, blessings, and readings needed to plan a wedding during Mass, outside Mass, or between a Catholic and an unbaptized person. You will need to select an Old Testament reading, a New Testament reading, and your choice of the Prayers of the Faithful/Universal Prayer and who will be the readers. Your presider will usually select the Gospel. You will receive a Wedding Planning form to make your reading and music selections. We also recommend using the online Together of Life Selection Form, <https://togetherforlifeonline.com/selectionform/sixthedition/>. Your selections are due one week before your wedding.

WEDDING MUSIC

Music for the Liturgy should be sacred. All music for Wedding Ceremonies and Nuptial Masses are required to follow the Constitution of the Sacred Liturgy and the Diocese guidelines. Our Music Director, Allyn McCourt, will assign one of our resident professional cantors as well as an organ/piano accompaniment for every wedding.

Due No Later Than Two Weeks Before Your Wedding

The music will be full and complete with organ/piano and voice, but we have a good roster of professional musicians should you be interested in an additional instrumentalist. The addition of a violin/viola with the cantor and keyboards is popular for weddings, but we also have cello, trumpet, oboe, guitar, and/or flute available. Each added instrumentalist would be \$250 each. If you were interested booking any additional singer or musician, please contact Allyn at mccourae@bc.edu no later than two weeks before your wedding. All music needs, including outside musicians and/or singers, must be reviewed and approved with Allyn.

Due No Later Than One Week Before Your Wedding

The order of service varies slightly depending on whether you are having a Nuptial Mass or Wedding Ceremony. For the music choices themselves, a Soundcloud page will be emailed with linked recorded options, organized by the parts of the mass. You can submit for approval any option you are interested in that's not listed.

For both a Nuptial Mass or Ceremony, select the music for:

- The Mothers/Parents/Grandparents' Procession
- The Bridesmaids' Procession (can be a separate piece or part of the above procession)
- The Bridal Procession
- Responsorial Psalm
- The Recessional

If you are having a Nuptial Mass, also select the music for:

- The Preparation of the Gifts/Offertory
- The Distribution of Communion
- A Post Communion Prayer (optional)

*Let the morning bring me word of your unfailing love, for I have put my trust in you.
Show me the way I should go, for to you I entrust my life.*

Psalm 143:8

THE CHURCH OF ST. IGNATIUS LOYOLA WORSHIP SPACE

There are no dressing or reception facilities in the church.

All those participating in the wedding should arrive dressed and ready.

COVID PROTOCOLS

In accordance with the Boston and Newton Health Departments, masks are required.

- In the front section of the Church, there will no longer be social distancing and seating will be in every pew.
- The back half of the Church will continue to be a safe space requiring masks, 6-foot physical distancing, and seating in every other pew.

SEATING CAPACITY

With the current church configuration, seating is approximately 250.

Without Covid restrictions, the seating capacity for the church is approximately 550.

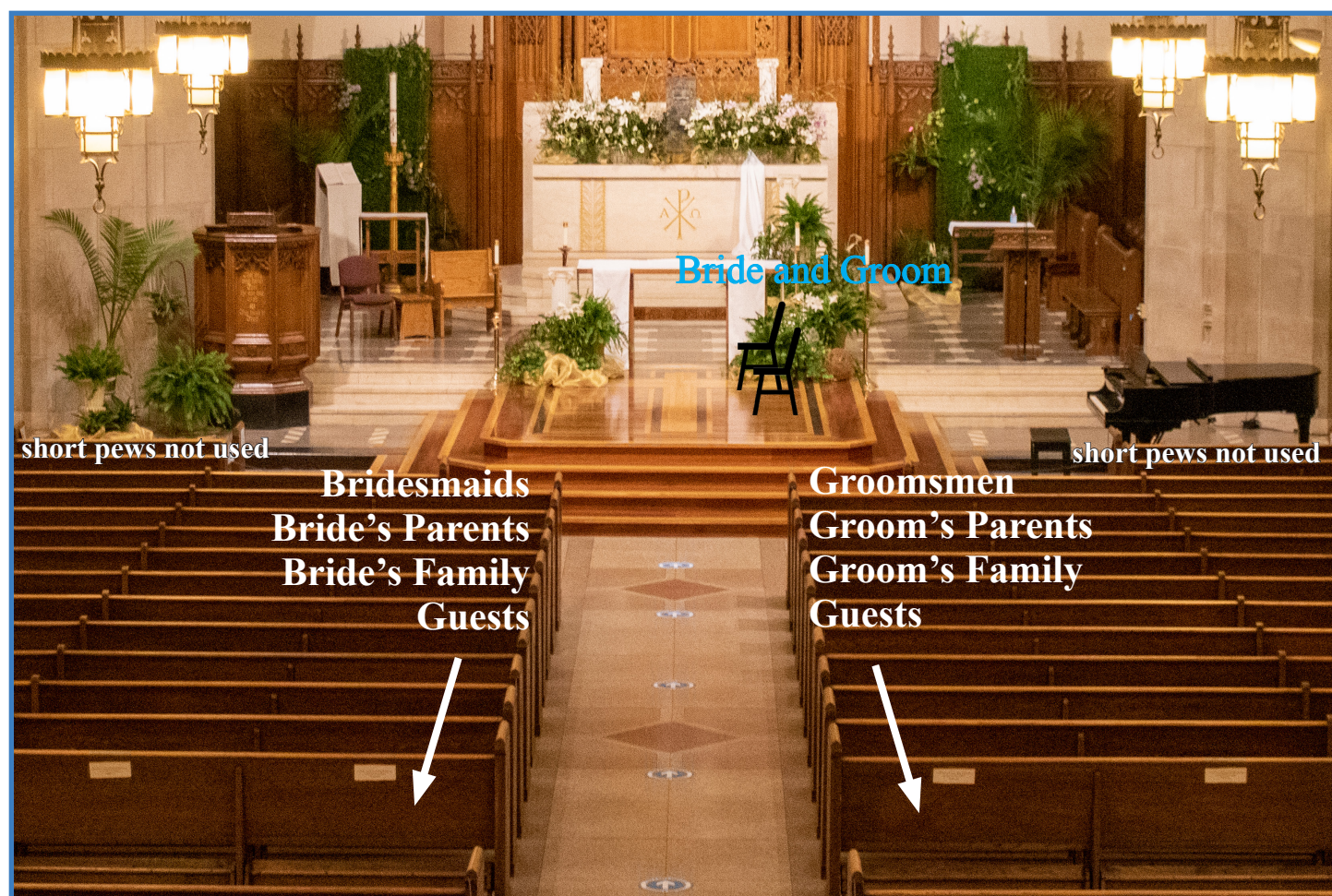
SEATING ARRANGEMENTS

The Bride and Groom sit on the right side in front of the altar in the sanctuary.

This is the appropriate posture for listening to the Word of God and the presider's homily.

During the wedding ceremony, the bride and groom will stand and face each other in front of the altar.

Those selected to be readers would sit in the congregation, come forward when they are invited to the ambo, then return to their seats after their reading.



*Always be humble and gentle.
Be patient with each other, making allowance for each other's faults because of your love.
Ephesians 4:2*

WEDDING DECORATIONS

In planning decorations for any season or event, the general instruction of the Roman Missal is an appropriate guide: Church decor should be noble and simple rather than sumptuous.

The Liturgical setting of the church and sanctuary (i.e., all seasonal decorations) **are not** to be altered for weddings and **no seasonal decorations are to be moved; there are no exceptions.**

DECORATING OUTSIDE THE CHURCH

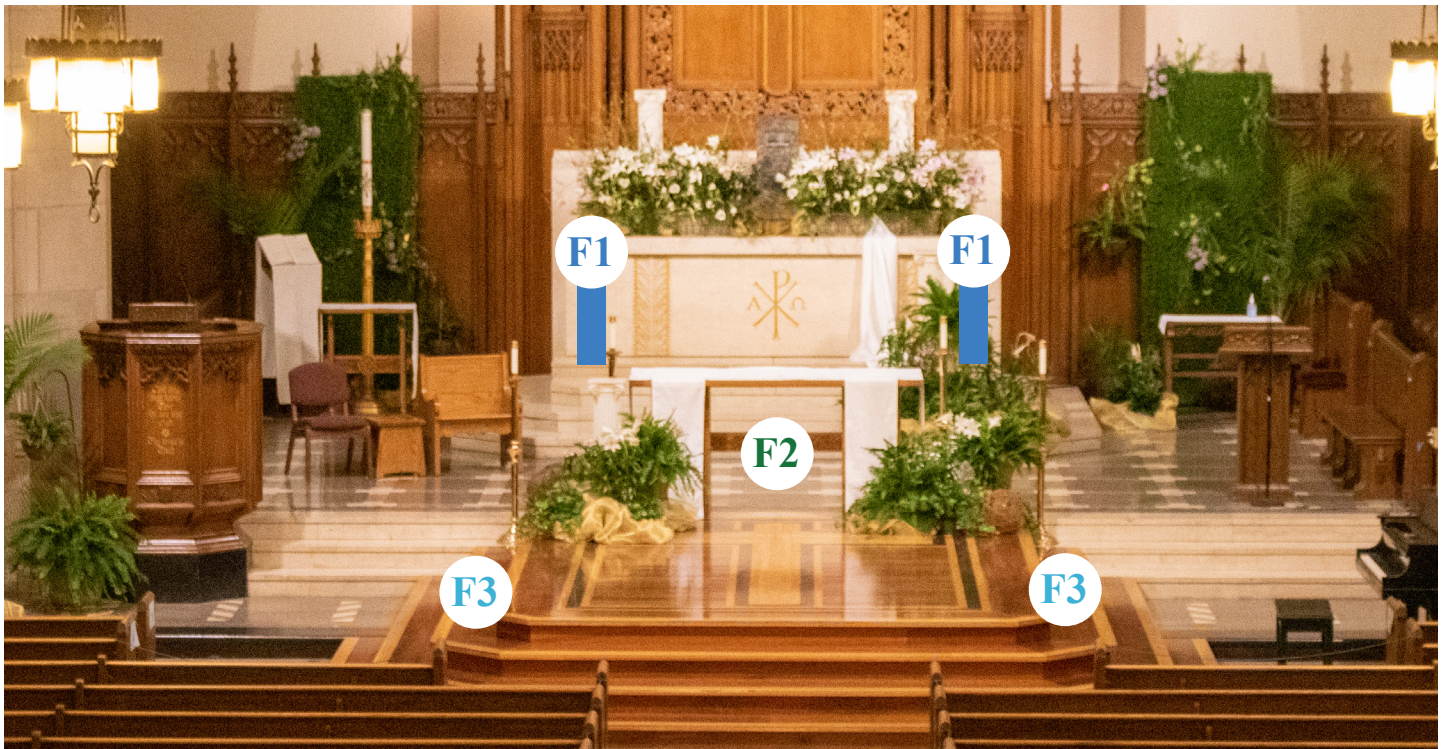
- Decorations on the outside railings or exterior doors are not permitted.
- **NO** materials such as rice, confetti, birdseed, or flower petals may be thrown on the front steps or down the aisle.

DECORATING INSIDE THE CHURCH

- Setup and **removal** of flower arrangements, decorations, and/or pew markers are the responsibility of the florist or other designated party, not the St. Ignatius Staff. Please share these guidelines with your florist.
- Flower arrangements are to be brought into the church at the beginning of your scheduled wedding reservation time unless earlier arrival has been approved beforehand. Contact Carol Russo at russocu@bc.edu or 617.552.6102.
- Boutonnieres may be delivered to the Sacristy prior to the ceremony.
- For safety reasons, aisle runners are not allowed.

FLORAL DECORATIONS

- St. Ignatius is elegantly and appropriately decorated each liturgical season, these decorations must stay in place and are not to be altered.
Flowers are a beautiful addition to any church service and can be incorporated into the worship space.
- If you would like to donate a flower arrangement to the church, please let our Wedding Coordinator know at your rehearsal.
- We suggest the following options:
 - F1** Two arrangements on pedestals by the back altar.
 - F2** One arrangement in front of the altar.
 - F3** Two arrangements (not on pedestals) on the steps in front of the altar.



Decorations in photo are an example of one of our seasonal displays, they change during the liturgical year.

PEW MARKERS

- Pew markers are placed on the main aisle pew ends, the number of pew markers used is your choice.
- Traditionally, they are placed on the wedding party pews, you would need 6 markers in total, 3 on each side.
- If you want additional markers on the other front section pews, you would add another 18, 9 on each side.
- If you want additional markers on the back section pews, you would add another 28, 14 on each side.
- Pew decorations are to be placed using pew hooks or elastic cord. No tape or nails are to be used.
- **Pew markers must be removed by your florist or a designated member of your group immediately after the wedding.**

IMPORTANT REMINDERS

- **The Liturgical setting of the church and sanctuary are not to be altered.**
- You are responsible for the removal of pew markers and flowers by the end of your church reservation.
- Flowers are to be brought during your scheduled time unless other approved arrangements were made in advance during weekday business hours.
- Make sure your florist is aware of your reservation window.

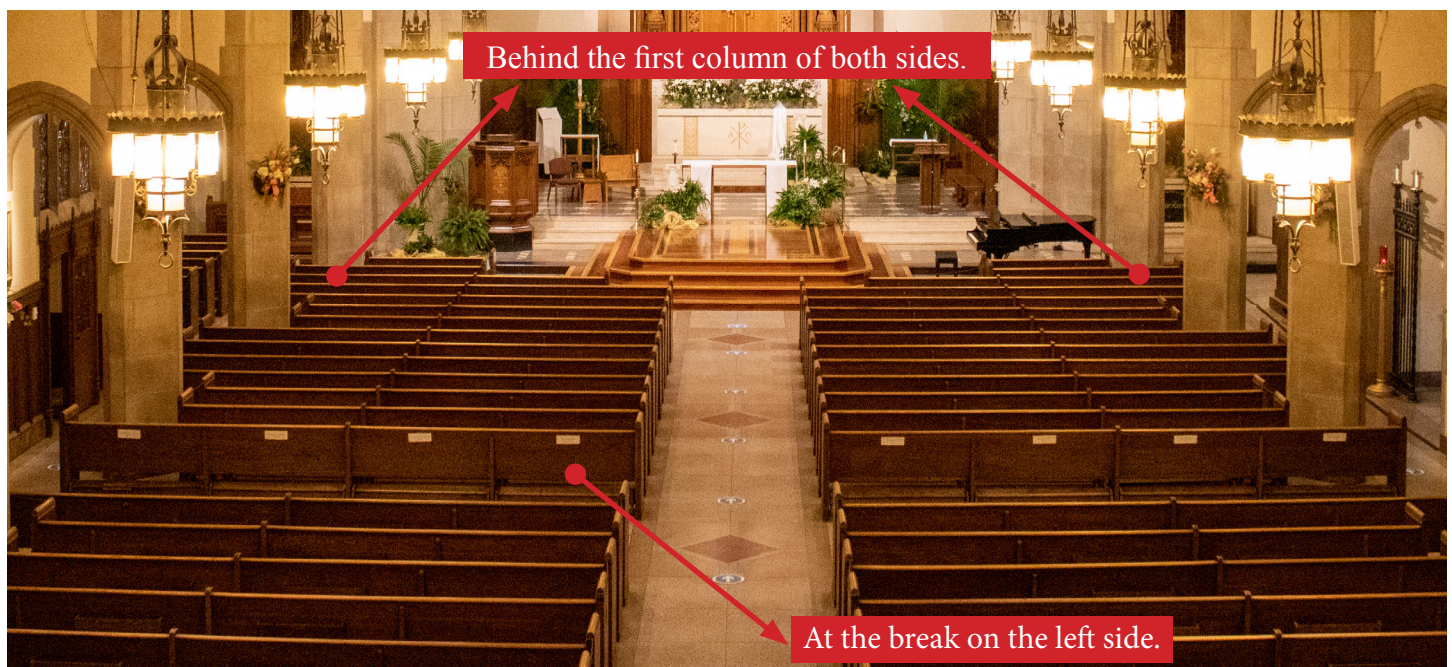
WEDDING PHOTOGRAPHY AND VIDEOGRAPHY

The Wedding Liturgy is a sacred moment of rejoicing in prayer, song and gesture.

While we understand your desire to record this moment, we ask you to observe the following guidelines so that the sacred joy of this day will not be intruded upon by photo and video equipment.

It is your responsibility that your photographer and/or videographer are aware of these guidelines before your wedding so that they can plan in advance what equipment to bring. Exceptions will not be made for any photographers and/or videographers.

- Flash photography is not permitted at any point except for the processional and recessional.
- Only the lighting available in the church may be used; no additional lighting may be brought into the church.
- Photographers and videographers cannot enter the sanctuary, impede the musicians, or stand/move in front of the guests and wedding party.
- After the wedding, the church will remain open for photos, provided there is time within your reservation. (a total of two hours beginning one half-hour before the wedding).
- All photographers and videographers are required to check in with our Wedding Coordinator when they arrive at the church and obey the directions given. Any aggressive behavior or disrespectful actions from the photographer or videographer will not be accepted and they will be asked to leave.
- Below are the approved locations where professional photographers may take photos (non-flash) and where videotaping equipment may be set up. No exceptions will be made.



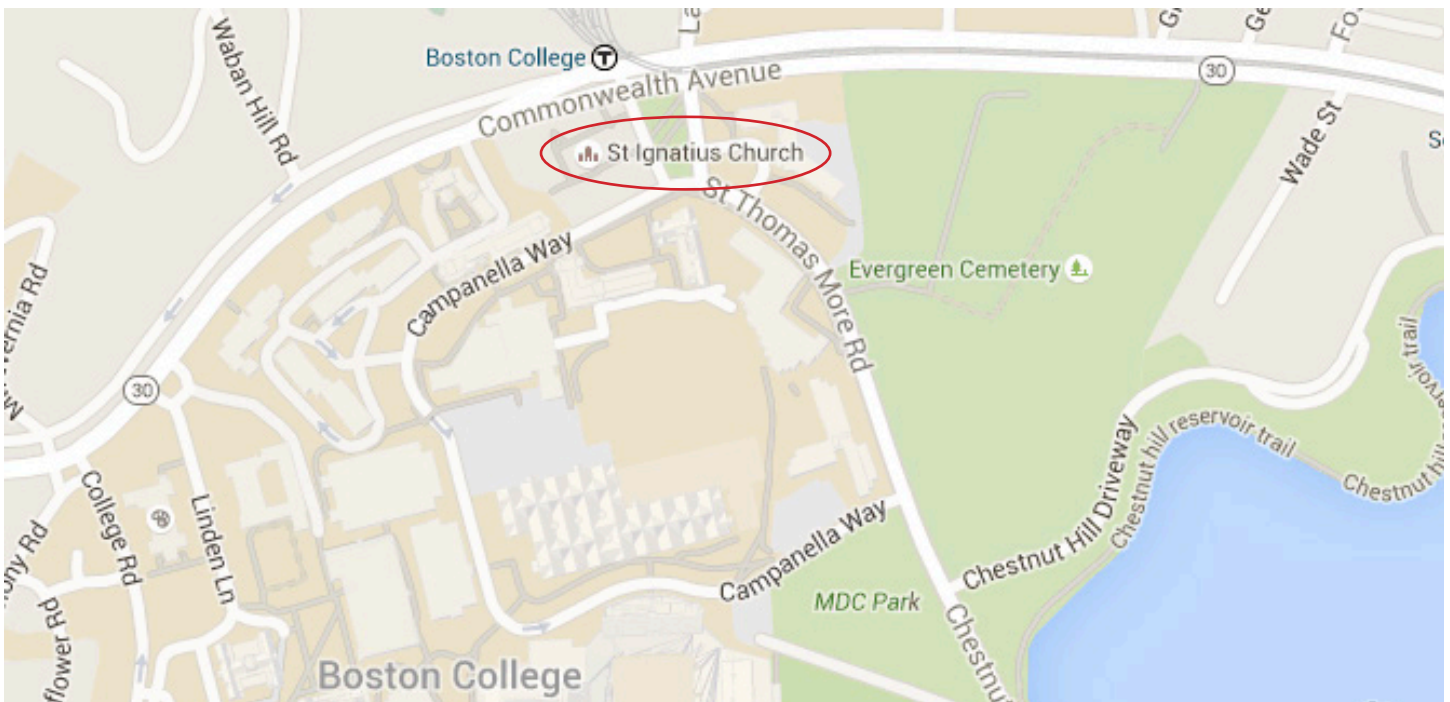
PARKING AND TRANSPORTATION

Parking is available in yellow spaces in the parking lot beside the church and in front of the church on Fr. Herlihy Drive. The curb space directly in front of the church is for the bride's vehicle.

Additional parking is available in the Boston College garage, which is beyond the church parking lot on the right side of Campanella Way. There are handicapped parking spaces on Commonwealth Avenue and at the top of the parish office driveway just behind the church. Please observe and honor all posted parking signage; vehicles may be towed. We ask that you provide your guests with this information.

An Important Reminder: Most trolleys and special vehicles rented for weddings **cannot** travel on highways or high-speed roadways. Check with your transportation company to determine actual travel time required to arrive at St. Ignatius Church for your wedding.

St. Ignatius of Loyola Church is located at 28 Commonwealth Avenue by Boston College in the picturesque Chestnut Hill neighborhood of Newton, just a short drive from downtown Boston and accessible by public transportation. **For navigation purposes, note that our Church is in Chestnut Hill, not Boston.**



**BEST WISHES! MAY GOD GRANT YOU ALL OF LIFE'S BLESSINGS AND LOVE'S JOYS.
IF YOU ARE RESIDING IN THE PARISH AREA AFTER YOUR WEDDING,
WE INVITE YOU TO REGISTER AT ST. IGNATIUS
AND BECOME INVOLVED IN OUR PARISH COMMUNITY.**



SAINT IGNATIUS OF LOYOLA CHURCH

28 Commonwealth Avenue, Chestnut Hill, MA 02467

stignatiuschestnuthill.org

Contact:

For Wedding Inquiries - Carol Russo, 617.552.6102, russocu@bc.edu

For Music Consultation - Allyn McCourt, 617.552.6114, mccourae@bc.edu

For Livestream Service - Michael Sennett, 617.552.6108, msennett@bc.edu