

DOCUMENTS NEEDED

When you begin your Marriage Preparation, the sooner you collect your documents, the better.

All documents need to **be collected at least 3 months** before the wedding, except for the Marriage License. All documents can be emailed to the Adult Sacraments Coordinator at mbatey@ap.church.

1. Bride and Groom's Baptismal Certificate

- If Baptized Catholic, a baptismal certificate re-issued 6-12 months before the wedding date is required. **We cannot accept the original.** Please call the Church of your Baptism and request a newly-issued Baptismal certificate with sacramental notations on the reverse side. If you are having trouble tracking down your certificate or need help requesting it, please contact Mary Batey mbatey@ap.church ASAP.
- If Baptized in a Protestant Denomination, then a copy of the baptismal certificate is needed. The original certificate is acceptable. If you are having trouble tracking down your certificate, please contact Mary Batey mbatey@ap.church ASAP.

2. "Freedom To Marry" Witness Affidavits – 4 Total

The Bride and the Groom will each need to have 2 people fill out a Freedom to Marry Witness Affidavit for them. Typically, parents, siblings, or life-long friends (more than 10 years) are great Witnesses to fill out these affidavits. 2 Affidavits for the Bride. 2 Affidavits for the Groom.

3. Prenuptial Questionnaire

Typically, when you meet with the Clergy to go over the Prepare and Enrich Assessment you will also fill out the "Prenuptial Questionnaire" with the Clergy. If you did not fill it out at that time, Mary Batey will be in contact with you to schedule a quick ~15-30 minute meeting with one of our clergy to fill out and sign this document.

4. Marriage License ~ *At least 2 Weeks Before Wedding Ceremony*

The marriage license should be obtained 2-3 weeks prior to the ceremony. In Texas, marriage licenses are valid for 90 days and you may not use it until 72 hours after purchase. The marriage license should be given to the Wedding Coordinator at the rehearsal.

5. Permission Letter from your Pastor to marry at St. Anthony's ~ *If Applicable*

If you are not living in our Parish boundaries and are not a registered parishioner of St. Anthony of Padua Catholic Church, we will need a letter from the Pastor of the Church you belong to stating that (1) you are a registered parishioner at that Parish and (2) that the Pastor of the Church gives you permission to be married at St. Anthony's.

6. Letter of Good Standing & Delegation Letter ~ *If Applicable*

If your presider is not from St. Anthony's, then that Priest or Deacon will need a Letter of Good Standing for ministry from his religious superior or Bishop. We will provide the Delegation Letter.

7. Decree of Nullity or Death Certificate ~ *If Applicable*

In the case that you have been previously married, you will need to provide either the Decree of Nullity or a Death Certificate. Mary Batey will inform you if this is applicable to you.

8. Dispensation/Permission to Marry a Non-Catholic ~ *If Applicable*

Mary Batey will inform you if this is applicable to you.