

## Reserving the Church

At St. Thomas the Apostle, we celebrate many marriages each year and typically require that a couple reserve the church one year in advance.

The parish hall is available for rehearsal dinners and receptions, provided that the couple reserves the church; both the hall and the church should be reserved at the same time.

### Reservation Fees

Parishioner – \$400\*

Non-parishioner – \$1,000

*For both parishioners  
and non-parishioners,  
a deposit is required to set a date.*

### Additional Fees

Approximately \$800

(liable to change)

\*This fee may be reduced if the couple or their immediate family regularly tithe their time, talent, and treasure to the parish.



## Special Circumstances

- For a Catholic and a non-Catholic to be married in the Church, the couple must receive a dispensation from the bishop.
- All visiting priests must be approved by the pastor of St. Thomas the Apostle.
- Non-parishioners must provide a letter of good standing from their current parishes.
- Those who wish to remarry must obtain an annulment prior to submitting the marriage application.

## Contact

### Email

[stthomaswedding@sta2.org](mailto:stthomaswedding@sta2.org)

### Website

[sta2.org/church/sacraments/marriage](http://sta2.org/church/sacraments/marriage)

### Address

530 Elizabeth St, Ann Arbor, MI 48104



# St. Thomas the Apostle Wedding Guide





## *Congratulations on your engagement!*

Marriage is both a gift and a vocation; it is not merely a contract but a covenant between a man and a woman. The sacrament of holy matrimony beautifully images the relationship between Christ and the Church.

According to the Catechism of the Catholic Church, "the grace of the sacrament thus perfects the human love of the spouses, strengthens their indissoluble unity, and sanctifies them on the way to eternal life" (1661).

We're honored to support you in preparing for your marriage. The following overview outlines the marriage preparation offered by St. Thomas the Apostle. This preparation is not just meant to help you plan for the wedding day but to strengthen your relationship as you enter into a lifelong commitment.



### *What are your first steps?*

- Complete the marriage application and reflection questions.
- Meet with a priest or deacon to complete a marriage assessment.
- Sign a reservation agreement in order to secure a wedding date.
- Request copies of baptismal certificates to be sent to the church, along with any relevant letters of reference.



### *What does marriage preparation look like?*

- Take an inventory designed to spark conversations about areas of growth within your relationship.
- Participate in Witness to Love, a program intended to support you as a couple before and after the wedding.
- Learn about NFP through an online course, with opportunities for in-person workshops.
- Complete the Diocese of Lansing's Love Takes Learning course.
- Discover more about the theology of marriage through the Beloved series on [formed.org](https://www.formed.org).