

## PHOTOGRAPHY AND VIDEOTAPING

Photographers are welcomed, however, they must keep in mind that a wedding in the Catholic Church is a liturgical worship service and they must be sensitive to the service. Likewise, since most weddings are formal occasions, photographers should dress in a manner befitting the occasion. ***Open shirt collars and shirt tails hanging out are inappropriate attire for male photographers. Likewise, mini-dresses are inappropriate for female photographers.*** The wedding liturgy is a celebration of a sacred moment. While we understand the desire to record this moment, we ask that the following policy be observed so that the sacred joy of this day will not be marred by photographic and video taping equipment and personnel.

- 1. Photographers and videographers are not permitted in the sanctuary once the liturgy has begun. Likewise, the use of flash photography is to be kept to a minimum once the ceremony has begun.**
2. Every effort should be made to let the wedding guests know that picture taking and filming is limited to the professionals hired by the bride and groom.
3. Only lighting already available in the church may be used. **No additional lighting may be brought into the church for use during the wedding ceremony.**
4. After the wedding celebration, the church will remain open **briefly** for the taking of pictures. However, since other liturgical services may be scheduled immediately following your wedding, ***you must restrict the taking of pictures to 15 minutes.*** Please keep in mind that you are still in church and proper respect and consideration must be given to anyone wishing to offer prayers in the church.
5. Photographs may be taken as the bridal party walks down the aisle for the processional and recessional. Pictures may also be taken prior to the wedding, but must be **completed at least 30 minutes prior to the time of the wedding** so that guests may be seated and the wedding can begin on time.
6. The photographer is asked to be sensitive to the musicians while they are performing. If the need arises to change or rewind film, the photographer is asked to either wait or to do so in a place away from the musicians where there will be as little distraction as possible. Likewise, due to the limited size of the choir loft, photographers are asked to adjust the use of their equipment in such a it does not interfere with the musicians.
7. ***Photographers and videographers are not to move ANYTHING. even though it mav interfere with photographs!***
8. The Cathedral will be opened **15 minutes prior to rehearsal** and **no earlier than an hour and a half before the wedding.** The Cathedral will close **15 minutes after the wedding.**

**It should be duly noted that photographers who sign this agreement and refuse to honor the policy will be sent a letter reminding them of this agreement. If a photographer continues to ignore the policy, they will be banned from photographing for Cathedral weddings.**

**(SEE REVERSE SIDE)**

This form is to be read carefully by the bride, groom, the photographer, and the videographer. All members of the wedding party, the photographer, the videographer must abide by all aspects of the policy outlined above. By signing this policy statement, the involved persons agree to the terms of this document.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Bride's Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Photographer's Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Groom's Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Videographer's Signature

**PLEASE RETURN THIS FORM TO THE CATHEDRAL OFFICE NO LATER THAN 10 DAYS PRIOR TO YOUR WEDDING.**