



St Michael Catholic Church

458 Maple Street, Livermore, CA 94550
StMichaelLivermore.com

Church Etiquette at the Wedding

It is common that many of your wedding guests will be unfamiliar with the etiquette in a Catholic Church. Please remind your wedding party and your guests of the common courtesies expected in the sacred space.

Starting on Time

It is crucial that your wedding party is on time; other parish events take place afterward. Weddings that start late will forfeit photography time following the celebration. The church will be open one hour before your scheduled start time.

For Saturday weddings, the last picture must be taken by 3:40 pm, as our church needs to prepare for the Sacrament of Reconciliation and the vigil Mass. Please understand that there are no exceptions to this rule.

Church Dress Code

The dress code is one of modest respect. **Plunging necklines, very short hemlines, spaghetti straps, sheer material, t-shirts with offensive graphics or language are inappropriate at church.**

Receiving Communion

If your wedding liturgy is within a Mass, only a practicing Catholic in a state of grace may receive Communion. The bare minimum requirements for a practicing Catholic to receive Communion is to assent to the following teachings of the Church and follow the Seven Precepts:

- a. Be free from Mortal Sin.
- b. To have right intention.
- c. Attend Mass on Sundays and on holy days of obligation and rest from servile labor.
- d. Confess your sins at least once a year.
- e. Receive the sacrament of the Eucharist at least during the Easter season
- f. Observe the days of fasting and abstinence established by the Church.



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- g. Provide for the needs of the Church.

Non-Catholic guests and Catholics who are not practicing are invited to join in silent prayer during the Communion Procession.

Food and Drinks

No food, drinks, chewing gum or smoking is allowed within the church. Alcoholic beverages are forbidden on church property.

Maintaining Respectful Quiet

The church is a sacred space. Respect must be shown by remaining quiet. Conversations can take place outside before and after the celebration.

Mobile Devices

Cell phones and mobile device sounds must be turned off within the church.

Guests Taking Pictures

Guests are not encouraged to take pictures as it is a distraction. Many weddings will have a professional photographer and/or videographer that are walked through proper conduct for photography and videography during the sacred liturgy.