

GUIDELINES FOR THE MARRIAGE SERVICE IN THE EASTERN ORTHODOX CHURCH

Items Needed for the Eastern Orthodox Marriage Service

1. Marriage License. This should be picked up well in advance of the wedding. It is good for 60 days.
2. Wedding Crowns.
3. Two Wedding Candles. The Bride and Groom hold decorated candles with white ribbons.
4. Rings for the Bride and Groom. They will be blessed during the ceremony

Optional Items

5. Silver Tray
6. Two Additional Wedding Candles. One is held by the Kumbaro (or Kumbara) and the other one by the Best Man or Maid of Honor.
7. Candied Almonds (Koufetes)
8. White Runner for the center aisle (75 feet)
9. Two bouquets of flowers for either side of the Royal Doors.
10. Orthodox Marriage Service booklet that explains what is happening during the service.
11. Organist. If using an organist, the organist must know the Orthodox Wedding Service.

Rules and Regulations to be Respected

1. Please make sure that your church dues are current (for Orthodox members).
2. If possible, all financial obligations to the Church should be made in advance.
3. The wedding date and rehearsal should be set well before the service.
4. If you choose to have the church choir, there is a \$50.00 fee paid to the Church.
5. Typically, we use only the Orthodox Marriage music & hymns.
6. Only the Orthodox Priest can perform the service. A non-Orthodox clergyman of another denomination may attend and offer a congratulatory blessing to the couple at the conclusion of the service.
7. The Orthodox person must receive Holy Communion on the Sunday before their marriage.

8. The Kumbaro/Kumbara must be Orthodox and in good standing with the Orthodox Church