



ST. RAYMOND DE PEÑAFORT CATHOLIC CHURCH

Memorandum of Understanding for Professional Photographers and Videographers

Many couples hire professionals to take photographs or to video record their wedding. This valuable service enables couples to capture their special day and view the event for years to come. Most professionals are able to do this in a way which involves minimal interference and distraction.

At Saint Raymond de Peñafort Church certain restrictions are placed on video recording and photography for the sole purpose of maintaining an atmosphere of reverence and dignity in the church. During the wedding ceremony, the flash of cameras and the moving about of photographers and videographers distracts the assembly from worship.

The following are guidelines for professional photographers and videographers:

- ◆ Please stay out of the raised sanctuary area.
- ◆ Please refrain from positioning yourself in or entering the front carpeted area between the sanctuary steps and the first pew during the entire celebration. This area is reserved for the wedding party.
- ◆ Photographers may take pictures before the ceremony, however, this should end 15 minutes before the wedding begins.
- ◆ During the processional, photographers and videographers should station themselves behind the guests. Flash may be used at this time. Photographers and videographers are not allowed to interfere with the wedding party as they process in. The main aisle is to remain clear.
- ◆ Once everyone is in place for the ceremony, photographers and videographers should remain behind the guests. Flash may not be used from this point, until the time the couple is presented to the community at the end of the ceremony. Tripods may be set up behind the guests in the pews. The open area left of the sanctuary by the stained glass windows can also be used, as well as the balcony at the rear of the church. Artificial lighting is never allowed during the ceremony.
- ◆ If the couple desires it, the photographer may walk down the aisle during the ceremony to take an individual non-flash photograph of those proclaiming the readings or petitions, the exchange of wedding vows, lighting of the unity candle or venerating of the Holy Family, provided the photographer remains behind the guests, not obstructing their view of the ceremony.
- ◆ After the wedding, the lights will remain on for 30 minutes to take pictures. Please respect the sanctity of the sanctuary during this time. Nothing should be placed on the altar.

Their wedding day is one of the most important days in the life of a married couple. These guidelines are in place to help facilitate this sacred moment. Thank you for honoring our sacred space, the couple, their family, and their guests.