

Donations/Wedding Fees

An offering to Old St. Mary's Church is customary – for the sacramental services, the use of the church facilities and parking lot, the FOCCUS survey, music arrangements including organist and cantor, and all pre-marriage preparation and paperwork. The wedding fees at **Old St. Mary's Church** are \$1000.

A **non-refundable** deposit of \$250 (toward the \$1000 total) is requested when you reserve a wedding date on the Church calendar. This should be given to the priest arranging your wedding or to the parish business office as early in the process as possible. The balance of \$750 is due at least two weeks prior to the wedding date. Both amounts are made payable to Old St. Mary's Church.

It is also a Catholic custom to give the priest presiding at your wedding a 'personal' stipend, *since the above donation goes wholly to the parish itself*. The priest's gift or stipend (i.e., \$100-\$200) is given directly to the priest at your last meeting, at the rehearsal, or on the day of the wedding itself, usually with a card or note of 'thanks.'

Increasingly, some couples request the marriage preparation and paperwork to be done at Old St. Mary's for a wedding to be performed at another parish or out-of-town. If this is your situation, we request a \$200 donation to Old St. Mary's to cover this service. Ordinarily, this stipend/fee is given to the priest at your 1st or 2nd meeting together.