

## **Your Wedding at St. George Church**

Your wedding is an important and deeply spiritual moment in your life, a day to be remembered forever. Our deep desire is to make this beautiful day everything you envision.

### **Setting the date**

The first thing to do when planning your wedding at St. George is to contact the Church Office at (541) 683-3519 to arrange for a wedding date. In order to have ample time for pre-marital classes and other preparations, the date should be set at least six months in advance. Please note the [days when marriage is not permitted](#) in the Orthodox Church.

### **Filling out the affidavit**

Once a date has been set for your wedding, you will be asked to come to the Church Office to fill out an affidavit for an ecclesiastical wedding license. This license, together with your civil marriage license, is required to conduct a wedding in the Orthodox Church. In the case of an inter-Christian marriage (marriage between an Orthodox person and another Christian baptized in the name of the Trinity), the non-Orthodox person will be asked to provide a copy of his/her baptismal certificate or some other verification of baptism.

### **Pre-marital counseling**

In order to help you prepare for the sacrament of marriage and better understand the Church's role in your new life together, St. George offers pre-marital counseling for all engaged couples. All couples must attend pre-marital counseling to be married in the Church.

### **Selecting a Sponsor**

You will need to select a sponsor or "koumbaros/koumbara" for your wedding. He or she must be a member in good standing of the Orthodox Church. Typically but not always, he or she will be either the Best Man or Maid/Matron of Honor at the wedding. If the sponsor is not a member of St. George, the sponsor's parish priest must send a letter verifying that he or she is a member in good standing.

### **The Priest**

Ordinarily, the priest at St. George presides over all weddings. If you would like another Orthodox priest to participate in your wedding, please discuss this with the priest, who will then extend an invitation to the visiting Priest.

### **Items Needed for the Wedding**

The following are the items necessary to perform a wedding in the Orthodox Church. Ordinarily (with the exception of the rings), these are provided by the Sponsor:

1. A tray with white Jordan almonds (Koufeta) and rice.
2. Rings for the bride and groom.
3. Floral crowns in the Orthodox traditional style
4. Two white decorated candles.