



POLICY FOR SATURDAY WEDDINGS

Diocese of Great Falls-Billings

Because the Eucharist is the summit and source of all Christian life [c.897]; and because Sunday is the foremost holyday of the Universal Church [c.1246]; priests should be given sufficient time to prepare themselves physically, mentally and spiritually for the Sunday celebration. Therefore:

- a) any Saturday wedding should be scheduled so that it is completed at least two hours before a Saturday evening celebration of the Eucharist;
- b) the parish priest is not to be expected to preside at a celebration of the Rite of Marriage after the celebration of a Saturday evening Eucharist;
- c) priests/deacons/administrators should explore with couples the possibility of celebrating the Rite of Marriage within the context of the Sunday Eucharist. Such a celebration will emphasize the fact that marriage is a sacrament of the whole Church, and not just a private ceremony for the benefit of the couple and their families and friends.

Reviewed June 13, 2007
Promulgated January 2, 1995
Most Rev. Anthony M. Milone,
Bishop of Great Falls-Billings