



Celebrating Quinceañera at Holy Cross Catholic Church

To help us make your Quinceañera memorable please read our guidelines carefully.

General Information:

- Families must be registered at Holy Cross Catholic Church
- Families must attend Mass each Sunday
- The quinceañera needs to complete a community service project
- Completion of the Sacraments of Initiation
- For a family outside the parish: must be attending Mass and in good standing at their church; must present a letter from the pastor of their church
- Attend the Diocese of Stockton quinceañeras retreat

What is Needed?

- Applications form along with a non-refundable reservation fee to reserve the date and time due one month before the Quinceañera
- Certificates of Baptism, Reconciliation, Communion, Confirmation and Quinceañera Retreat due one month before the Quinceañera

Preparation Meetings:

- A planning meeting with our coordinators one month prior to the rehearsal date.
- Rehearsal prior to the ceremony; must be attended by all those involved in the ceremony
- Rehearsal is scheduled on Friday from 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

The Liturgy

- A Quinceañera is celebrated at a Mass or Liturgy of the Word
- The celebrations are on Saturdays only and there are no celebrations during Lent
- The Liturgy starts exactly on time; otherwise your event will be shortened or even canceled

Music

- All musical selections are to be of a religious nature. Anything from a secular repertoire must be performed before the ceremony begins
- Notify our office of your choice of musicians and songs one month prior to the celebration. It is your responsibility to pay the musicians.

Photographs and Videos

- Still photography and videography are allowed; however, they must be discreet and respectful of the church and not interfere with the flow of the ceremony. ***Flash photography is not allowed during the ceremony.***

Flowers and Decorations

- Bows are allowed on the side of the pew. Use clips or tie bows do not tape, nail, glue, tack or staple to the end of pews
- Aisle runners, lace or fabric blocking the entrance to the pews are not allowed
- Flowers arrangements may be placed in the following areas:
 - Two vases behind the altar along the back wall of the sanctuary
 - One small arrangement to leave for the Virgin Mary
- Place flower arrangements 30 minutes prior to the ceremony. You may not change or move any of the décor within the church. Please inform us if you are planning to leave the flower arrangements in the church

Reconciliation/ Confession

- Confessions should be done at least one week prior to the celebration. Let your court know about the confession times
- NO confessions are heard before the Mass or at the rehearsal

Day of Ceremony

- Everyone involved in the ceremony must arrive 30-45 minutes before the scheduled time. The liturgy will begin promptly at the scheduled time
- Those in the procession will gather in the hall prior to mass
- Only the quinceañera is permitted in the sanctuary
- We recommend that all the Catholic members of the court receive Holy Communion on that day
- Gifts can include only the Bible, rosary, medal; all other gifts should already be worn or presented at the reception

Please ask each padrino and member of the court to sign the following:

You are asked to serve as a padrino or as a member of the court for

_____, to celebrate my quinceañera on Saturday,

_____ at ____ pm at Holy Cross Catholic Church in Linden, CA.

- The rehearsal is scheduled on _____ at _____ pm at Holy Cross Church
- All padrinos and members of the court must attend the rehearsal and then be at the church at least a half hour before the quinceañera celebration is to begin

By signing this, you are saying that you understand and will be at the church at the necessary times. Thank you for helping to make this a special celebration!"

Signed by _____
(*padrino or member of the court*)