

# *Mainland and Foreign Marriages*

*Requirements for couples from outside the Diocese requesting marriage in the Diocese of Honolulu.*

*Please contact your local parish priest as soon as possible to help with marriage preparation. In the Diocese of Honolulu attendance at the Engaged Encounter Weekend and Sessions with your parish priest is required as part of your marriage preparation. It is strongly recommended that you attend the Engaged Encounter Weekend or its equivalent in your Diocese.*

*The following documents are to be sent to the Chancellor's Office of the Diocese of Honolulu four weeks in advance of your scheduled wedding day:*

- ~ A letter of recommendation from your priest stating that you are fully prepared according to the marriage preparation guidelines of your Diocese.*
- ~ Baptismal Certificate(s) of the Catholic parties.*
- ~ An Affidavit of Freedom to Marry for each of you signed by parent, if he / she is alive, and witnessed by your priest stating you are free to marry in the Catholic Church.*
- ~ Any required dispensations or permissions which are to be granted by your Diocese. The priest assisting you will be able to obtain these dispensations / permissions from your Chancery Office.*
- ~ A Pre-Nuptial Investigation Form used in your Diocese should be filled out in full.*
- ~ A letter of permission from the pastor or priest preparing the couple in accord with Canon 1115.*
- ~ Addressed to: Roman Catholic Church in the State of Hawaii  
Diocese of Honolulu  
1184 Bishop Street  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813-2858*

*When all the required documents are received by the Chancellor's Office of the Diocese of Honolulu, a NIHIL OBSTAT will be granted and all the documents will be sent to the priest who will officiate at your wedding here in Hawaii.*

*Because the Church is our special home and place of prayer and worship, a wedding between two Catholics must take place in the Church building. This is a unique place where we encounter our God in all the sacraments of the Church ~ in Baptism, Confirmation, Eucharist, Penance and now Matrimony. Therefore, a wedding between two Catholics outside the Church building is not permitted by the Diocese of Honolulu.*

For valid reason(s) (e.g. respect for the non-Catholic party and their family and friends) a request for a wedding between a Catholic and non-Catholic outside of the Church building may be made to the Chancellor's Office of the Diocese of Honolulu. A letter of request should be sent to the Chancellor's Office in Hawaii along with the above mentioned documents explaining the reason(s) for the request.

You must obtain a marriage license from the Hawaii State Department of Health, 54 High Street, Wailuku, Hawaii 96793, Phone: 984-8210. Office hours are Monday through Friday 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. It is required to call and make an appointment (they do not take walk-ins). You should plan to arrive in Hawaii at least three (3) working days before the scheduled wedding day to obtain your marriage license. The cost of the marriage license is \$50.00 (as of September 1, 1998), which payable in cash only, at the time of filing the application (checks and credit cards are not accepted). Please see enclosed brochure on "Facts about a Marriage License".

Please contact the priest who will officiate at your wedding here in Hawaii to reserve the Church for the rehearsal and wedding. The following information should also be sent to the priest in Hawaii.

- ~ Your name, address, home and work phone number of your mainland or foreign residence.
- ~ Your fiancé's name, address, home and work phone number.
- ~ The name, address, home and work phone number of a relative or friend who we can contact here in Hawaii if you have one.
- ~ The name of the priest who is preparing you for marriage, the name of the church, its address and phone number.
- ~ Date of arrival on the Island.

Please try to arrive a few days before your scheduled wedding and make an appointment to meet the priest who will be officiating at your wedding and to go over the final details of your wedding ceremony.

ST. JOSEPH'S CHURCH  
124 Makawao Avenue  
Makawao, HI 96766