

## Liturgical Reminders-Weddings on All Souls Day

A number of pastors have asked about weddings on All Souls Day next year, 2019. The information below will guide you through some possibilities.

In 2019, All Souls Day falls on a Saturday, a prime day for weddings. However, All Souls Day is one of those liturgical days when the Ritual Mass for the Celebration of Marriage may not be said. It falls into the “top three” in the ranking of liturgical days where no other Mass text may be substituted. Don’t worry; on such days, there are several options:

1. The wedding may still be celebrated within the context of Mass. However, **the Mass of the Day prayer formularies must be used** with its appropriate readings. The marriage rite is celebrated following the homily.
  - a. If you choose this option, one of the texts for the Scripture readings may be taken from the those for the celebration of marriage (OCM 34b).
  - b. The mood of the celebration is to be kept consonant with the nature of the liturgical day.
2. **The Order of Celebrating Matrimony Without Mass may be used.** This option may be chosen on November 2, 2019, even if both the bride and groom are Catholics.
  - a. The presider may be a priest or a deacon (with permission)
  - b. Take advantage of all the options for texts and rites that may enrich the celebration. For example, the revised rite, includes the use of a communal song, or canticle of praise following the exchange of rings. Such options may add a festive character.

For information on the revised ritual and other marriage related issues, go to the Worship web page: <https://www.eriecd.org/bishop/worship.html>. There you will find:

- Diocesan policy for weddings on Holy Days of Obligation
- An overview of the revised Order of Celebrating Matrimony, 2016
- A video demonstration for couples and parishes, based on the workshop presentation on the revised rite.