



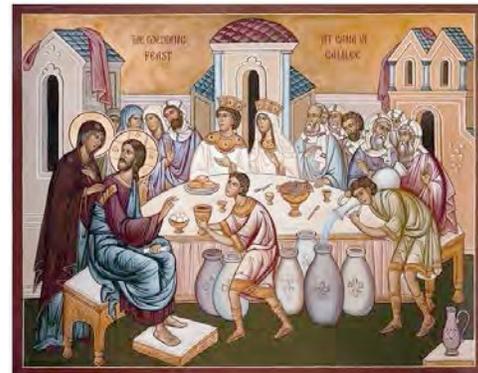
# Saint Vasilios Greek Orthodox Church

## Saint Basil the Great

5 Paleologos Street, Peabody, MA 01960-4496

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Web: [www.stvasilios.org](http://www.stvasilios.org) E-mail: [Irene@stvasilios.org](mailto:Irene@stvasilios.org)



Dear Parishioner,

Congratulations on your upcoming nuptials. Your wedding day is a beautiful and important day in your lives. St. Vasilios Greek Orthodox Church would like to assist you in making it perfect. In order to avoid unnecessary issues and to help you in planning for your wedding, we would like to remind you of the following:

1. Please fill out the enclosed form and return it to the church office as soon as possible. The date and time of your wedding cannot be confirmed until that form is returned to the office.
2. Every couple planning to be married in a Greek Orthodox Church must attend one marriage preparation and enrichment seminar. This seminar, comprised of two sessions that meet according to the enclosed schedule, is held in the parlor room of our Educational Center from 7:00-9:00 p.m. While you are free to choose the sessions in any month that is most convenient for you, we strongly suggest that you have completed your attendance at least two months before your scheduled wedding date. Please remember. No couple will be permitted by the Metropolis Registry Office to have a church wedding without the necessary seminar certificate of completion. In addition, no priest has the authority to excuse you from this obligation. Please check the attached seminar schedule and choose the class that is most convenient for you. When you have decided which class you plan to attend, you will need to pick up the book and fill out the registration form from the church office.
3. If the bride, the groom and the sponsor are Greek Orthodox, they must be members in good standing of their respective parishes. If any of them belong to a parish other than St. Vasilios, they must bring a letter from their priest stating that they are members in good standing in that parish.
4. If one of the parties of the marriage is not Orthodox, a simple baptismal certificate is all that will be needed. A baptismal certificate is also required for the Orthodox party if he or she was not baptized at St. Vasilios Church.
5. If one of the parties of the marriage has been married before, it is absolutely essential that a valid divorce decree be presented. If the marriage was performed outside the Orthodox Church, a civil decree from the probate court will be needed. If the marriage was performed in the Orthodox Church, then a valid Ecclesiastical Divorce Decree will also be necessary. If you have any questions about either of these documents, please contact Fr. Chris as soon as possible to have your questions clarified.
6. If either the bride or the groom was born in Greece and was 12 years old or older upon arrival here, they must apply to the Bishop of the Diocese in Greece in which they lived for a document certifying that they have never been married in Greece. Please bring whatever documents apply to your situation with you when you meet with Fr. Chris.
7. Approximately five to six weeks before the wedding, you should make an appointment to see Fr. Chris for the purpose of preparing the necessary wedding papers. Both the bride and the groom must be present at this meeting. Fr. Chris will go over a checklist of things for you to remember so that all will go smoothly the day of the wedding. You should bring with you copies of your baptismal certificates, your civil license, and if you were previously married, a copy of your civil divorce. You must bring a check or money order in the amount of \$100.00, made out to Metropolis of Boston. This Metropolis registration fee is used to help defray the cost of seminar study materials, as well as the cost of processing all of the necessary



8. You must make your own arrangements for your wedding music. Please call Tony Vatosios, our choir director, at 508-843-2190 to make arrangements for the rehearsal and marriage ceremony.

Wedding fees are as follows as directed by the Parish Council:

ORGANIST/SOLOIST \$300.00

CHANTOR \$100.00 (Required if not having a soloist)

SEXTON \$ 75.00

CLERGY\* \*A fee for clergy services is **not** required.

{An honorarium may be offered at your discretion.}

**-Notice of a new Parish Council (PC) policy for non-members and lapsed members: A Usage Fee determined by the PC to cover the costs of certain expenses that are incurred by the Parish for sacraments such as baptisms or weddings will be implemented, and in addition non-members and lapsed members must complete a stewardship application and pledge financial support to the Church annually.**

\*\*\*\*\*PLEASE NOTE\*\*\*\*\*

**Note:**

Please bring or mail the above fees to the church office at least two (2) weeks before your wedding.

Thank you for your time and attention to these important details. The St. Vasilios community welcomes you as you begin your new lives together.

Sincerely, Mrs. Irene Stephanides,  
Office Manager St. Vasilios Church Office

[Irene@stvasilios.org](mailto:Irene@stvasilios.org)

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