

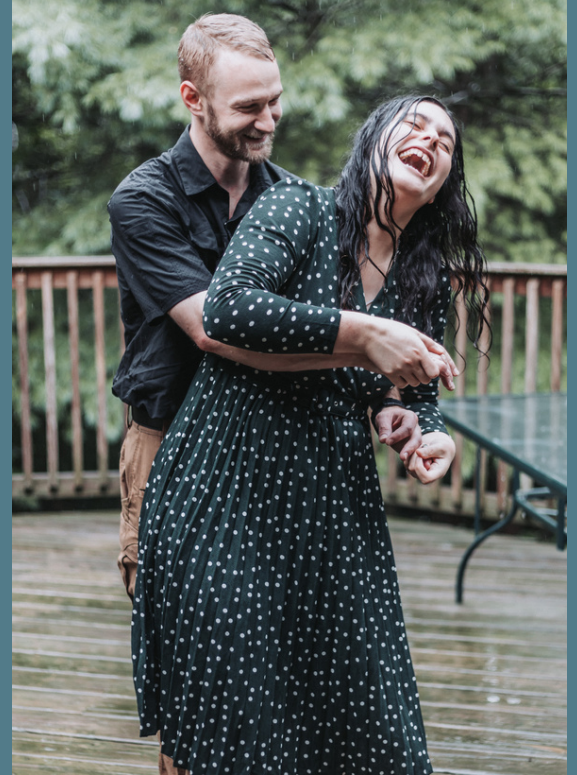
HOW TO HONOR OUR LADY ON YOUR WEDDING DAY

10 TIPS ON HOW TO
HONOR THE
BLESSED MOTHER
ON YOUR
WEDDING DAY



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First, I just have to say...thank you!



Thank you so much for submitting an inquiry to work with me on your wedding day! As soon as I see an inquiry come through on my website, I am beyond excited at the possibility of working with an amazing Catholic couple!

As you may have seen on my website, I have been married for over 2 years, and I love the beauty of this vocation and sacrament!

One of the things that was super important to me and my husband as we planned our wedding was to honor Our Lady in multiple ways on the day! That's why I have created this resource for you to look back on as you start the planning process! I hope you find these ideas helpful.

1) Choose a title of Our Lady to devote your wedding day to!



You can do this in a subtle or in a more obvious way, but choose a title of Our Lady (she actually has SO many titles - look up the "Litany of the Blessed Virgin Mary" for lots of suggestions) to devote your wedding day to!

Maybe you have a strong devotion to Our Lady of Fatima, Star of the Sea, Mystical Rose, Queen of Peace, or Our Lady of Guadalupe. You can choose to include elements of that title in your wedding details (through prayer cards, invitations, favors, or jewelry, for instance)

2) Have the rosary prayed before your ceremony begins



This is such a beautiful way to set the tone of your entire wedding day, and it is a great task to delegate to someone who is important to you! For instance, we delegated this task to our groomsmen (and we actually had five so it was perfect for each to lead a mystery).

I've also seen it where the altar servers lead the rosary. Another idea is to have someone important to you (that isn't in the wedding) lead it as a way to include them. For instance, you could ask one of your brothers or uncles do it!

3) Have your bridesmaids or groomsmen in blue!



Blue is the color of Our Lady! This is a beautiful but subtle way to honor her on the wedding day. For my wedding, we had all our groomsmen in navy blue, and had the girls wear navy blue shawls in church.

For this wedding above, Andrew (the groom) wore a blue suit! You can also include blue in various ways on the wedding day (perhaps in your flowers, or other decor).

4) Wrap a rosary around your bouquet



Wrapping a rosary around your bouquet is one of the more common traditions I see at Catholic weddings - and for good reason! It is a lovely way to honor Our Lady because you are keeping her close to your heart! For this bride, she included images of loved ones that have passed away as well.

This is also a great opportunity to include a rosary that means a lot to you, or you could find a rosary that is blue as a way to honor her in that way too!

5) Get married during May or on a First Saturday



You may already have your wedding date set, so this might not be possible (and that is totally okay)! But if you're still thinking of your wedding day, consider getting married during the month of May or on a First Saturday!

May is the month dedicated to Our Lady, and it is such a lovely spring time. However, First Saturdays are also dedicated to Our Lady! My husband and I got married on a First Saturday. We didn't specifically pick that date because of it, but when we realized that it did land on a First Saturday, we were so happy to have that as a little way of honoring her!

6) Pick Marian Hymns to be Sung during the Mass



This is one of those ways that is just so beautiful! As St. Augustine says, "He who sings, prays twice!" What a lovely way to honor the Blessed Virgin than by including hymns that recognize her.

Here are some suggestions of Marian Hymns:

-Salve Regina

-O Sanctissima

-Ave Maris Stella

Magnificat

-Arcadelt Ave Maria

-Queen of the Holy Rosary (you could also do this as an instrumental!)

7) Bring a rosary to your couple's portraits



One of the things I love to do is include rosaries into my photographs. And, on your wedding day, it is so special to have a few images of you and your spouse with a rosary. It's such a visual representation of how important your Catholic Faith is to you!

This rosary could be one that has sentimental value (maybe one that a family member gave you, or one that you received on your Confirmation day) or it could be a new rosary that will be sentimental because it's from your wedding day!

8) Pray together or with your bridesmaids before the ceremony starts



Praying a few Hail Marys or the Litany of the Blessed Virgin Mary before the ceremony begins is such a wonderful way to honor Our Lady!

My husband and I did a "First Touch" which consists of praying together as a couple, but not seeing each other.

At this wedding, Meghan took a few minutes with her bridesmaids to pray together shortly before the ceremony started. I am so glad I was there to capture this beautiful moment in front of Our Lady's statue!

9) Consider doing the Wedding Lasso traditon



Have you ever heard of the Wedding Lasso? Don't worry if not, I hadn't heard of it until more recently!

The Wedding Lasso is a Catholic wedding tradition that is rooted in Mexican, the Philippines, and other Latin communities. It is considered to be a unity ceremony that is performed after the exchange of vows. The lasso is made of two large rosaries, linked together with one crucifix. The rosary is placed over the bride and groom in a figure-eight form (the infinity symbol), which represents the eternal bond you are creating in the eyes of God. It is traditionally placed on the couple by the bride's godparents or by the priest after the exchange of vows and rings. This is a beautiful tradition to include, especially if you have a strong devotion to Our Lady and the rosary.

10) Offer a bouquet of flowers to Our Lady during Mass



This is another common wedding tradition that is done at most Catholic weddings I have photographed! The bride (or bride and groom depending on how the church does it) will offer flowers to Our Lady. During this moment, the bride (or couple) will say a few prayers.

This moment usually happens toward the end of Mass, but definitely discuss it with your priest!

I hope this has been helpful!



I truly hope this guide has been helpful.

Throughout the process of working with me, I hope to not only photograph you two beautifully on the wedding day, but also be there for you both as a Catholic friend and ally! I know how the wedding industry can be; I aim to help you along this journey by bringing you joy, praying for you, and providing resources that lend you a hand as you prepare for this beautiful sacrament + vocation.

I wish you the absolute best as you prepare for marriage!

God bless,
Victoria