

IV. Mass or Ceremony

A wedding day is a day to celebrate all that unites the couple in a real and meaningful way. It is certainly not a time to draw attention to differences. From this, some consequences flow.

- ❖ For two **ROMAN CATHOLICS**, who **PRACTICE** their faith and attend mass regularly, the marriage normally takes place within the celebration of the **EUCCHARIST (MASS)**.
- ❖ For two **ROMAN CATHOLIC** who do **NOT PRACTICE** their faith or who do not attend mass on a regular basis, it is more coherent with the couple's lifestyle to celebrate the marriage within a **LITURGY OF THE WORD** and not mass.
- ❖ If one spouse is **NON-CATHOLIC**, the wedding is celebrated in a **LITURGY OF THE WORD**, and not Mass.

Please do not confuse the two sacraments of **MARRIAGE** and **EUCCHARIST**. They each stand on their own and in no way depend upon each other. A marriage is valid even if it is not celebrated within Mass.