



Quinceañera Celebration General Information

St. Mary's Catholic Church

811 W 23rd Ave, Bellevue, NE 68005

Phone: 402-291-1350

Email: Rectoria@stmarysbellevue.com

Pastor: Rev. Lydell Lape

Spanish Ministry & Formation Contact:

Rev. Chris Saenz, Columban Father

Phone: 402-715-5557

Email: csaenz@columban.org

Meaning of the Celebration

A Quinceañera celebration is a liturgical celebration that acknowledges that a young woman has reached maturity and is ready to take on additional responsibilities. Most importantly, the celebration reaffirms her Catholic faith and the traditional virtues of the Catholic family.

Pastoral Authority & Scheduling

- All Quinceañera celebrations are subject to the **pastoral judgment and final approval of the pastor.**
 - Celebrations will **not be scheduled more than six (6) months in advance.**
 - Dates and times are subject to the **parish calendar, liturgical seasons, and pastoral availability.** Celebrations may be limited during Advent, Lent, or other penitential seasons.
 - **Important!** On the day of the celebration, please arrive at the parish on time. The parish may have other activities throughout the day, and any delay can affect those activities. **The celebrant (priest) will not wait more than 10 minutes. After 10 minutes, the celebration will be canceled, and the priest will leave.** So please, respect the parish's schedule.
 - Church fee: \$250
 - **Voluntary donation to the priest who officiates.** Apart from the church fee, the family can give the priest a voluntary donation for his time and service. The amount depends on what the family thinks the celebration deserves.
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Eligibility Requirements (All must be met)

Each of the following is required for eligibility.

- The quinceañera and her family must be **active and registered parishioners of St. Mary's Catholic Church in good standing for at least six (6) months prior to scheduling.**
 - Non-registered families must present a letter of good standing from their parish.
 - The quinceañera and her family must be active in parish life such as **regularly attend Sunday Mass, attendance in a parish youth group, enrolled in Religious Education (RE), altar serving or another approved ministry.**
 - The quinceañera must have received the Sacrament of Confirmation or be currently enrolled in Confirmation classes.
 - If the quinceañera did not receive the Sacrament of Confirmation in St. Mary's or is a non-registered parishioner, the family must present the confirmation certificate or a document with proof of enrollment in a confirmation class.
 - The quinceañera must have **attended and completed a required preparation program** offered by one of the parishes within the Archdiocese of Omaha and verified with Rev. Chris Saenz. Or, receive formation and instructions from Rev. Chris Saenz, or the priest who will celebrate the quinceañera. For more information, please consult with Rev. Chris.
 - Failure to meet these requirements or to remain in good standing may result in denial or cancellation of the celebration, with or without refund.
 - Any questions or doubts, please contact Rev. Chris Saenz.
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