

Quinceañera Symbols

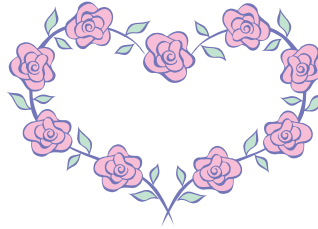


The following symbols are frequently used in a Quinceañera Celebration: (the Church does not require them at your celebration, you can have some, all of them or none) If you have them here is the meaning:

The Medal symbolizes the religious expression of faith. The young lady is placed under the protection of the person represented by the image of the medal. Sometimes a little cross or crucifix is given and it has the same expression of faith.

- **The ring** symbolizes the tie and the responsibility the young lady has to the community and to her God.
- **The crown** symbolizes the victory the young lady has won in trying to live a Christian life in the midst of all the problems and challenges of her environment.
- **The Flowers** symbolize the newness of her commitment and responsibility to the community.
- **The Bible** is the word of the Lord presented to the Young Lady, who receives it to use it as a guide in her life.
- **The Candle** symbolizes Jesus' Light.
- **A Prayer** written by the Young Lady is a commitment that she'll fulfill to the Lord.

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St. Mary's Church
Quinceañera Program

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QUINCEAÑERA PROGRAM

Initiation rites and customs are essentially religious. In the case of the Quince Años Celebration among the Hispanic Communities of our Archdiocese, the sacredness of life is recognized and the important role of youth in the Christian Community is underscored. It is this reason that today a fifteen-year-old, anticipating the Quince Años ritual, needs to first enter into a process of preparation and transformation within the community of faith.

The Quince Años preparation is concluded with the special Eucharist celebration and dedication to the Lord.

TEACHABLE MOMENT

The Quinceañera occasion can be used as a teachable moment for the young lady and every body that are involved in her celebration.

Receiving the Word of God in the most significant way at this time of her life will determine how meaningful her life will be.

The Eucharistic Celebration with all that is attached to the Quince Años will be celebrated in the spirit of gratitude for the gift of life.

Persons who are significant for the young lady and invited guests will be present.

QUINCEANERA CEREMONIES

1. ALL QUINCEAÑERAS' CELEBRATIONS AT ST. MARY'S CHURCH ARE DONE AS A GROUP. Due to the great number of young ladies that wish to celebrate their Quinceañera at the Parish, all celebrations will be done as a group. With the exception that your family is the only one that has reserved that date. If that is the case the family that has the reservation would be responsible for all expenses. Please see fees on page 3.
2. The Masses are scheduled on Saturdays at 11:30 a.m. Unless we notify you differently.
3. In Case of cancellation of any or all the Quinceañeras on your Celebration Day, you will be notified as soon as possible, so you to decide if you would like to have the celebration for your daughter alone or we will accommodate your Quinceañera on another day. If you decide to have it for your daughter alone, you need to cover the total expenses of a single celebration. Please see fees on page 3
4. PRIVATE CELEBRATIONS WILL BE LIMITED TO SPACE AND PRIEST AVAILABILITY. A private celebration opening can not be guaranty or offer unless there is a cancelled Mass and this can not be offer until two months prior to your celebration. **ALL QUINCEAÑERAS HAVE TO BE BOOK AS A GROUP CELEBRATION AND CHECK FOR POSIBILITIES TWO MONTHS PRIOR TO YOUR CEREMONY.** (Before you print your invitations)
5. Please let the office know if you are interested in a single celebration to make notes in your reservation.

QUINCEAÑERA REQUIREMENTS

1. The Quinceañera is required to have received her First Communion or be enrolled in a First Communion Preparation Program. A First Communion certificate copy is required.
2. The Quinceañera needs to register in the Youth Confirmation Program.
3. The Young Lady along with her family should be members of the Parish Community and attendance at Sunday Mass is necessary to celebrate a Quinceañera in a religious celebration.
4. Non Parishioners can reserve a Mass at Saint Mary's but the attendance at Sunday Mass in your Parish is still required.
5. There will be a Quinceañera preparation class for Parents, Godparents and the Quinceañera two to three months prior to the celebration. If Godparents are married must be married in the Catholic Church.
6. All parties involved in the ceremony such as Parents, Godparents, Damas & Chamberlains, Chamberlain de honor, and the Quinceañera **need to celebrate the Reconciliation Sacrament** the Saturday before the celebration. There are no Confessions during the week or prior to your ceremony. **Confessions are every Saturday from 3:30 to 5:00 p.m. If for any reason the Quinceañera doesn't meet this requirement before the day of her celebration, the celebration will be a blessing outside the Mass.**
7. The Quinceañera with Parents, God Parents, Damas & Chamberlains, Honor Chamberlain, must attend the Quinceañera Rehearsal. Dates & times will be given at the Quinceañera class.
8. Damas & Chamberlains: A limit of only 7 couples eight years old or older.
9. If you are videotaping or taking pictures, instructions will be given to photographers. These instructions should be followed by the person you have hired. Respect should be demonstrated at all times inside the Church. No pictures or video taping is allowed during the Liturgy of the Word and during the Eucharistic Prayer.

QUINCEANERA FEES AND DONATIONS

The fees are to cover the operational expenses of buildings used for Mass, classes. music fee, coordinator's fee and donation for the Church.

FEES

1. \$360.00 for Group Quinceañera. (Fee per family) \$410.00 for none Parishioners.
 2. \$725.00 for Single Quinceañera. (includes Music for the ceremony)- This fee is subject to change without previous notice) **QUINCEAÑERAS HAVE TO BE BOOK AS A GROUP CELEBRATION AND CHECK FOR POSIBILITIES TWO MONTHS PRIOR TO YOUR CEREMONY.**
- A \$150.00 first payment is required to reserve the date, which will not be reimbursed if the celebration is cancelled. A remain \$210.00 (\$260.00) balance needs to be paid a month prior your celebration.
 - An extra \$100.00 cleaning deposit fee will be requested the date of your practice. (Cash only) If the Church is left in the condition that it was found, this deposit will be reimbursed.
 - Flowers may be ordered for the occasion of the Quinceañera in thanksgiving. A Floral offering is \$160.00. If you wish to order flowers please let the coordinator know. Flowers fee needs to be made at Parish Office.