

Decorations —Due to our celebrating the ceremony in group format, we do not allow any decorations in the church to avoid disagreements with décor type, colors, etc. amongst the families participating. The quinceañera can bring in a flower bouquet to offer to Our Lady of Guadalupe in Thanksgiving and customize said bouquet to her liking. No flower petals, rice, birdseed, confetti, bubbles, etc. are allowed in or outside the church as they may potentially pose a hazard as well as clean up issues.

Music —Music will be provided by St. Martha's Music Ministry and is included in the cost of the church. Mariachis are not allowed for the quinceañera celebration, either participating at Mass or outside after the ceremony has concluded.

Respectful and Appropriate Behavior—Out of consideration for those praying and due to the setting of the occasion, a respectful and quiet manner should be observed by all in the church. Any disruptive behavior, influence of drugs/alcohol will result in immediate cancellation of your participation in the ceremony. Running, loud talking, eating food, tobacco including use of vapors, and chewing gum is also not allowed. Cell phones should be turned off or silenced upon start of the Mass.



"For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, 'plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.'"

Jeremiah 29: 11

Process to Reserve a XV Mass

An appt. must be made in order to reserve a date, please do not schedule any venues/vendors until you have secured the date for your ceremony.

To reserve a date, please call the parish office to make an appointment and bring with you the following: *copies of sacramental certificates, permission letter from home parish (if applicable), and initial deposit.*

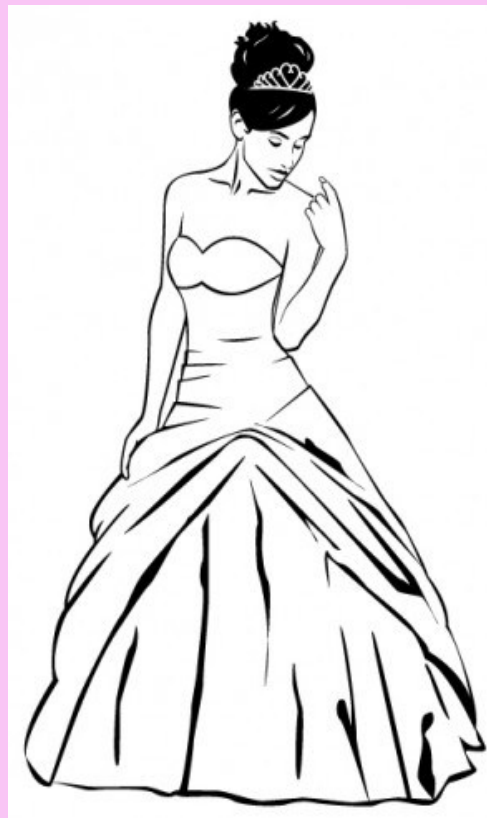
Please note: Prior to confirming date, a parent will be required to sign a contract in agreement with all requirements and guidelines for our Quinceañera Ministry.

To make an appt. or to get more information about our Quinceañera Ministry, please contact:

Andrea Lopez
andrealopez@sbdiocese.org
(951) 698-8180, ext. 218
37200 Whitewood Rd.
Murrieta, CA 92563



St. Martha Catholic Church QUINCEANERA MINISTRY



*A Guide to Celebrating
a Quinceañera Mass of Thanksgiving
at St. Martha Catholic Church.*

Celebrating your Quinceañera

The quinceañera is a traditional celebration of life and gratitude to God on the occasion of the fifteenth birthday of a young Hispanic woman. The ritual emphasizes her passage from childhood to an adult person of the faith.

The quinceañera is not a sacrament. The Mass is offered as an Act of Thanksgiving to God for the blessing of their daughter's life and to seek His blessing and guidance as she transitions into adulthood.

St. Martha's Catholic Church welcomes the opportunity to help celebrate this cultural milestone with you.

A group celebration of the Quinceañera Liturgy is offered on the 3rd Saturday of each month (with the exception of Holy Week and Advent) at 11am. We do not offer any individual celebrations for Quinceañeras. Celebrations can have up to 4 girls participating in any given Quinceañera ceremony. No exceptions.

The following is an overview of our Quinceañera Policy that includes requirements and guidelines. Should you have any questions, or would like to reserve a date for your ceremony, please contact the parish office.

We look forward to helping you with your planning.



Requirements

- ◆ Family must be registered for the past 6 months and ACTIVE members of St. Martha. If you do not reside within our parish boundaries, you must turn in a letter of permission for your Quinceañera to be celebrated at this parish. You will be considered a non-parishioner.

Note: All non-parishioners MUST abide by all our rules and regulations.

- ◆ The candidate must have completed BOTH Sacraments of Baptism and First Communion. Proof of sacraments via copies of certificates must be presented in order to reserve a date.
- ◆ Quinceañera w/ parent and/or sponsor must attend a quinceañera retreat. Proof must be turned in no later than 3 months prior.
- ◆ Quinceañera, her court, parent and main sponsors (padrinos) must commit to attending a rehearsal the week of.
- ◆ Full payment is due 45 days prior to quinceañera.

Additional Guidelines

Attire —Because a Quinceañera is a solemn celebration of Christ's love for his church, the attire chosen for the quinceañera (and participants) must reflect Christian values of modesty and decency. All attire must be appropriate for this ceremony. Low cut or revealing dresses are not acceptable.

Blessing of Articles (optional) —It is tradition to have items blessed for the quinceañera that may include a promise ring, a religious medal, bible, rosary, etc. The ceremony allows for each quinceañera to have their individual items blessed by the priest or deacon.

Ceremony —The group celebration of the Quinceañera will be celebrated within the context of a Liturgy that involves communion. This means that Mass will not be provided therefore the consecration of the Eucharist will not take place. However as mentioned before communion will be distributed. **The liturgy will also be done bilingual (English and Spanish).**

Cost —The admin fee for a Quinceañera is \$600 - Parishioner / \$800—Non-Parishioner. A non-refundable deposit of \$300/\$400 will be expected in order to reserve a date. The initial deposit will be considered part of the total cost. Any balance is due 45 days prior to the date of your ceremony.

Confessions—It is the responsibility of the quinceañera and any participants to seek the Sacrament of Confession prior to the date of the celebration. Priests are not available the day of.

Court & Sponsors (optional) —The quinceañera is allowed to have a court accompany her on the day of her celebration. The court can consist of up to 7 sets of escorts (chambelanes & damas) and one main escort. Note: There is only one set of main Sponsors (Padrinos) that is allowed to participate in the procession and ceremony. The main set of Padrinos will be seated up front along with the parents.