

SS. Cyril and Methodius Catholic Church
Shiner, Texas

QUINCEAÑERA GUIDELINES

MUST BE:

1. Practicing Catholic and attending Mass on Sundays/Holy Days.
2. Currently attending Catholic school or CCD and attended regularly for at least the previous 3 years.
3. Baptized as Catholic.
4. Celebrated First Holy Communion.
5. Schedule six (6) months in advance.
6. Registered member of the parish.

TRADITIONAL: Deacon/Communion Service

PRIEST/MASS: Except the following:

No court, escort, padrinos, gifts other than the rosary, Bible, and flowers to the Blessed Mother. Strictly the young lady, parents, godparents.

NO QUINCEAÑERA DURING LENT OR ADVENT: Quinceañeras scheduled on Saturdays and no later than 12:00 noon.

INTERVIEW WITH DEACON/PRIEST.

STIPEND: The offering for the church is \$150.00 and must be paid no later than two (2) weeks in advance (offering for a visiting preside/deacon is separate and to be discussed with that individual). Please make checks payable to SS. Cyril and Methodius Church and enclose a note bearing your name and quinceañera date. If you are inviting clergy from another parish or diocese to participate in the celebration it must be discussed and approved by your parish priest immediately.

REHEARSAL: No rehearsal is needed if Mass is to be celebrated. If no Mass is celebrated, a rehearsal is allowed.

“HOUSE OF GOD”: Loud and disrespectful conduct is out of place; so are food, drinks, gum chewing, whispering amongst each other, children should be kept seated and not left without supervision before, during, or after the celebration. No pagers or cell phones are allowed in church. The more that you leave the doors open, the warmer it will be in the church. Please keep all doors closed before, during, and after the ceremony. It is important that we remember that when you are in church we are in the Presence of the Lord and an atmosphere of prayer and respect should be maintained at the rehearsal and before, during, and after the celebration.

PHOTOS, VIDEO, FLOWERS, ETC.: Photos and video cameras are welcome provided they do not become a distraction during your celebration. You are allowed to decorate one hour before.

Effective May 10, 2010

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Please be careful not to damage the pews or church furnishings when attaching flowers. Flower petals, confetti, etc. are prohibited for safety and maintenance reasons. Remove all floral arrangements, ribbons, photography equipment, clothing, etc. from the church immediately following the celebration. No dressing in the church. No tacks and no tape of any kind is allowed on the pews, wooden painted surfaces. Items left in the church will be disposed.

MUSIC, ALTAR SERVERS, EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS, LECTORS: These arrangements are your responsibility and should be made well in advance. There are some restrictions as to the music and music groups: these will be explained. Assistance is available for providing Lector, and Eucharistic Ministers, Altar Servers. (Offering is up to the individual.)

Stipends for visiting:

Priest: \$25—Mass & \$25—Confessions
\$0.33 per mile round trip.

Deacon: \$25—Communion Service
\$0.33 per mile round trip.

It is your responsibility to provide the priest/deacon with a place to stay and meals during his stay here for your celebration.

What is a “Quince Años” Celebration?

The ceremony symbolizes the responsibility of the young lady at this time of her life to the human group of which she is a member. The way this custom is popularly understood today is the presentation of the young lady to society. In order to bring out the religious and spiritual dimensions, Catholics celebrate this custom with special emphasis on the awareness and sensitivity of the young lady in dealing with the values, concerns, and challenges of the Christian community.

The quince años celebration is not a sacrament but the sacraments of Penance and the Eucharist play a vital part in it. The event may be celebrated in the simplest form possible to avoid creating class distinction in how it is celebrated.

Quinceañera

A Quinceañera is a time of rejoicing, giving thanks to God, and a renewal of your baptism, communion, and confirmation. A time to share with your friends, relatives, and especially your parents who are responsible for guiding you and giving you a basic Christian foundation. Pray that the Lord will give you the strength to overcome the temptations of the world and make you a good example of “today’s teenager.” Michelle P. Montoya