

Procedure – Tickets to General Audience with Holy Father

***If you are planning a pilgrimage to Vatican City and would like to request tickets to the General Audience with the Holy Father, please contact Christine Shields at cshields@orlandodiocese.org or (407) 246-4845.**

When making your request, we need the following information:

General Papal Audience Tickets

The Holy Father holds a General Audience most Wednesday mornings in Vatican City at 9:30 a.m. The audience is held in either St. Peter's Square or the Paul VI audience hall. Tickets are required to attend the Papal audience. Tickets are entirely free.

The audience is a chance to pray with the Holy Father and receive his blessing, which is imparted to all present and to their families and friends.

- The name(s) of the person(s) who wish to attend the audience or event
- The date of the audience you would like to attend
- The number of tickets needed
- It is useful to us if you would also include the email address and home address of your pilgrims. Should this be difficult to acquire, however, it is not necessary. Information about their accommodations in Rome is not necessary.
- (Optional) Additional information about your parish involvement or reasons for making a pilgrimage to Rome.

Newlyweds

To qualify as a newlywed couples (*sposi novelli*), couples must be married within 2 months of the audience they wish to attend, carrying with them a copy of the Sacramental Marriage Certificate signed by their priest, and wearing their wedding attire.

The Holy Father will bless them for a happy wedded life when he gives his general blessing at the conclusion of the Papal audience.

- 1) Full name of Groom
- 2) Full (maiden) name of Bride
- 3) Date of marriage
- 4) Name and location of the church
- 5) Name of the priest presiding at the wedding
- 6) Date that they wish to attend the Papal audience
- 7) The couple needs to bring a copy of the Sacramental Marriage Certificate signed by their priest to the Papal audience.

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Groups and Group Choirs (10 or more persons)

Groups larger than 10 people are encouraged to provide us with the following information, that we may request their group be publicly announced at the Audience:

- The name of the parish or organization the group represents
- The name of the group leader
- The date of the audience or event
- The number of persons in the group
- The city and state where they are from
- Choirs who wish to sing for the Holy Father for 45 seconds are kindly requested to give advance notice of their request.

Papal Masses & Liturgies

Throughout the liturgical year, the Holy Father celebrates Masses for Solemnities and other special occasions. These include Christmas Eve (December 24), Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God (January 1), the Epiphany (January 6), Palm Sunday, Holy Week liturgies, Easter Sunday, as well as canonizations/beatifications and other extraordinary occasions.

Please note that tickets for these events are often very limited. Ticket pickup information will be included in the personal response you receive regarding your request.

The response that we send to your requests for Papal events will contain any pertinent information your pilgrims may need, including when and where to pick-up their tickets. For Wednesday Papal Audiences, pick-up times are always the Tuesday before the Audience between 3:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. ***For other Papal events, pick-up times and days will vary.*** We ask that this information be passed onto pilgrims so that they can make the necessary arrangements to pick up their tickets; it is also often useful to them.

Please be aware that while our office is not able to arrange for Vatican Museum visits, or Scavi Tours (the excavations underneath Saint Peter's Basilica), we are pleased to provide you and your pilgrims with the contact information for these or other offices in the Vatican.

For more information, the link below provides pilgrims a more comprehensive overview as they plan their pilgrimage.

<http://www.pnac.org/> (Then click on the 4th tab entitled "Rome").

For the official schedule of events at the Vatican, attached below is link to the Prefecture of the Papal Household website.

http://www.vatican.va/various/prefettura/en/udienze_en.html