



Guidelines for Quinceañera Celebrations

These guidelines have been prepared by the Office for Evangelization and Catechetical Ministry/Hispanic Evangelization to assist parishes in handling requests for Quinceañera celebrations.

Celebration

- All youth, regardless of race or cultural background, who have reached 15 years of age may request a quinceañera.
- Quinceañeras may be celebrated within a Mass or within a Liturgy of the Word.
- Quinceañeras may be celebrated for an individual or for a group.
- Liturgical norms are to be respected, in particular during Advent and Lent.

Date and Location

- Parishes should accept requests to schedule quinceañera celebrations according to established parish guidelines.
- Quinceañeras must be celebrated in a parish church or chapel.

Preparation

- The celebrating youth should have already celebrated the sacraments of Baptism, Reconciliation and First Eucharist. Youth who have not received these sacraments should register with sufficient anticipation (i.e. 2 years) to be able to enroll in an adapted RCIA or in the appropriate parish sacramental preparation program.
- The quinceañera preparation program should include catechesis and a practice for the liturgy.
- Parents and sponsors must attend the preparation program.

Companions of Faith

- Must profess the Catholic faith.
- Must attend the preparation program.

Parish Quinceañera team

- A parish team of 3-5 people responsible for the preparation is recommended.
- Team members should receive adequate training, including courses and workshops offered by diocesan offices, information regarding safe environment for youth and have parish resources available to them.