

St. Mary's Anglican Church, Richmond Hill

Wedding Information

This material will help you if you are considering, or preparing for, getting married at St. Mary's, Richmond Hill. If you haven't already done so, please contact the church office 905-884-2227 or office@saintmaryschurch.ca. to arrange a meeting with clergy.

This meeting should take place as soon as possible and at least thirty (30) days before the proposed wedding date. Clergy will discuss the meaning of marriage, the details of the service, and *confirm the final booking* of the wedding.

Christian Marriage

Christian marriage is a holy and public covenant between a man and a woman, in the presence of God. In the Anglican Church, it is required that one, at least, of the parties be baptised Christian. It is hoped that couples intending marriage at St. Mary's are willing to practise their faith by regularly attending worship.

Preparation for Marriage

The church requires that each couple prepare for marriage. Courses are available to help couples in this preparation. We recommend the programme offered by the Rev. Brian Murray of *Humancare*. He can be reached at 905-841-3173, or see the website at <http://www.marriageprep.com/>.

Marriage Licences

A marriage licence must be obtained. These are issued at any municipal office. Please note that the licence is valid for three months from the date of issue but there is a waiting period of three full days between the date of issue and the date of the wedding. Please bring your marriage licence to the clergy at the final preparation meeting before the wedding.

Remarriage of Divorced Persons

Divorced persons may be married in the Anglican Church by permission of clergy. It is wise to consult as early as possible, if such a wedding is contemplated. At least sixty (60) days' notice is required.

Change of Name

A person informally adopting the surname of the spouse has no difficulty in obtaining a driver's licence or a passport or other forms of identification, although usually a copy of the marriage certificate is required.

The Order of Service

Communion

We encourage practising, baptised Christians to consider having Communion as part of their wedding celebration.

Music

Music is to be in keeping with Christian worship. If you wish, it is appropriate to sing hymns or songs during the ceremony. *Common Praise*, the hymn book of the Anglican Church of Canada, offers some that are especially suited to weddings. Our organist, Murray Baer, 905-737-5702, is available for consultation regarding your wedding music most Sundays after our second service. Please contact him as soon as your wedding has been confirmed.

Scripture Readings

A Bible reading from the Old Testament or Epistles may be read during the service, if you would like, by a family member or friend. Couples are encouraged to choose from the following list of appropriate readings:

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| Genesis 1: 27-28, 31a | <i>God created man in his own image; in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them ...</i> |
| Romans 12: 1-2, 9-13 | <i>Let love be genuine; hate what is evil, hold fast to what is good ...</i> |
| 1 Corinthians 13 | <i>So faith, hope, love abide, these three; but the greatest of these is love ...</i> |
| Ephesians 3: 14-19 | <i>To comprehend with all the saints what is the breadth and length and height and depth, and to know the love of Christ ...</i> |
| Colossians 3: 12-17 | <i>Put on love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony ...</i> |
| 1 John 4: 7-12 | <i>If we love one another, God abides in us ...</i> |

Gospel Readings

Please choose one of the following appropriate Bible readings from the Gospels (Matthew, Mark, Luke and John):

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| Matthew 5: 1-10 | <i>Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness for they shall be satisfied ...</i> |
| Matthew 22: 35-40 | <i>You shall love the Lord your God ... You shall love your neighbour as yourself ...</i> |
| Mark 10: 6-9 | <i>The two shall become one flesh ...</i> |
| John 2: 1-11 | <i>On the third day there was a marriage at Cana in Galilee ...</i> |
| John 15: 9-12 | <i>This is my commandment, that you love one another ...</i> |

Flowers and Accessories

Please contact Joan Connolly, the Wedding Co-ordinator, 905-883-3901, to arrange for flowers, bows and other accessories.

Videos and Photography

Videography is permitted as long as it is unobtrusive and does not interrupt the service. Photos may be taken but there are to be no flash pictures. It is helpful for you to discuss this when making arrangements with your photographer and that he or she meet with the clergy before the service to discuss this policy.

Fees

Please bring the various fees to the wedding rehearsal in separate envelopes.

Organist

The fee for the organist is \$175.00.

Church

Couples who do not support Saint Mary's through regular givings are asked for a donation of \$300.00. An income tax receipt will be issued for this donation.

Clergy

The honorarium for the clergy is \$300.00 (not for parish members).

Wedding Co-ordinator

\$150.00 (not for parishioners)

Pillar Candles (optional)

\$25.00

Candelabra (optional)

\$25.00