

Getting Married at St Patrick's Church



1. Your Wedding Ceremony

You have chosen St Patrick's Church for your wedding. The present St Patrick's was built in 1914 to replace the much smaller St Patrick's which had been blessed in October 1845-the first Catholic Church within the City of Adelaide. The original site of this first church, west of the present one, is within the grounds of the Archbishop's House.

The information in this booklet will assist you as you prepare for your wedding ceremony.

Two ceremonies are available:

Firstly, there is the wedding ceremony within the celebration of the Eucharist (often called a Nuptial Mass). Where both parties are Catholic they normally choose the Nuptial Mass.

Secondly, there is the wedding ceremony within a celebration of God's Word. This ceremony does not include Holy Communion and is most often chosen by couples of different Christian traditions or mixed faith.

Please discuss with the Priest officiating at your wedding which is the more appropriate ceremony for your situation. He will also assist you in selecting the Scripture Readings, Prayers and Vows for your wedding.

Please be aware that Readings from the Scriptures must be chosen for your ceremony as part of the Liturgy of the Word. Also, that the signing of your marriage certificates must not occur on the Altar, but on the table provided.

2. Marriage Preparation

All couples getting married within the parish are encouraged to participate in a Marriage Preparation Course. The enclosed leaflet gives details of those provided through our Catholic Family Services - Centacare - at 33 Wakefield Street Adelaide.

3. The Celebrant of Your Wedding

Over 120 couples marry in the Cathedral of St Francis Xavier and St Patrick's Church each year. It is normally the responsibility of the Parish Priest of the parish you reside in, to prepare and marry you. Please contact your local Parish Priest. If he is unable to marry you, please ask him to arrange for another priest for you. Where one of the couple lives within the Adelaide Cathedral Parish or regularly attends the Cathedral, one of the priests of the Parish will be available.

4. Wedding Planners

If you engage a Wedding Planner the Cathedral Office must be notified with the contact details so that a copy of these conditions can be sent to them.

5. Costs

As you would appreciate, the running and maintenance of St Patrick's, the Cathedral and the Parish is very costly. Money for this work is primarily borne by those who worship within the Adelaide Cathedral Parish. To give added and essential support it is necessary to make certain charges for the use of St Patrick's for Weddings.

By Church tradition the Archbishop sets a uniform stipend (or offering) for all weddings in the Archdiocese which forms part of a central fund to support the priests. This offering is given directly to your priest and he will inform you of the suggested amount.

The bond money is to ensure the Church and grounds are left in an appropriate condition and to ensure the requirements set out here are met.

The booking fee is \$900 which includes a \$200 bond. Payment of this fee is required at the time of booking. Cancellation of booking incurs a fee of \$50. The bond will be returned after the wedding if the stipulated conditions are met. Please note that at least 6 months notice is required for the booking. Arrangements should be made by ringing the parish office on 8232 8688.

If you have difficulties in meeting these costs please speak to the Assistant Administrator.

Nothing at all is to be thrown inside or outside church grounds after the wedding ceremony ie no confetti, flower petals, rice, sugar almonds or similar tokens. (Bubbles may only be used outside the church)

The throwing of anything at all within the church grounds will result in the bond being forfeited.

The bond money will also be forfeited if the ceremony is more than 15 minutes late starting (this means starting to walk down the aisle and not when the car arrives) or the wedding party has not left the grounds 90 minutes after scheduled starting time.

In keeping with item 9, with regard to floor decorations, swagging and floral arrangements or candelabra between the pews or along the aisles, the bond will be forfeited if these conditions are not followed.

Also, in keeping with item 11 in this leaflet, the bond will also be forfeited if alcohol is consumed in the porch or grounds of St Patrick's prior to or after the ceremony.

The release of doves or other birds is not permitted.

It is your responsibility to ensure your guests are informed of these conditions.

6. Times of Weddings

To ensure that each wedding can be celebrated with dignity and without undue haste the following times are available on Saturdays.

Noon

2.00 pm

4.00 pm

It is essential that your wedding start on time. This is because a) Saturday is always an extremely busy day at St Patrick's and the Cathedral, and b) people involved in your wedding - Priest, Organist, Singers and Sacristan, can be on a tight schedule. We recommend that the bride arrive 5-10 minutes before the start of your wedding ceremony, allowing unhurried time for photographs. Your co-operation in this matter is most important.

7. Music for Your Wedding

When you choose to marry in St Patrick's you are choosing to marry consciously in the presence of God. Your wedding is a religious ceremony, celebrated in a sacred place. Music and/or singing are there to enhance the sacredness and prayerfulness of your ceremony. Appropriate Church music is a requirement.

Musicians are not provided as part of your Church Booking Fee.

Couples may enlist/contract whatever musicians they desire, however the following conditions must be met:

- Mr Joshua Valstar is the Music Director for the Cathedral. With the Administrator of the Cathedral, he is responsible for the music at all Liturgies. You are required to contact him on 1300 714 009 or at maestro@

internode.on.net for approval of your music at least one month prior to the wedding.

- Non-Christian songs or “pop” songs are not permitted. Do not presume that because you have heard them at other weddings that they are suitable and will be approved at St Patrick’s
- Songs using the word “Yahweh” should not be chosen.
- Pre-recorded music (CDs, MP3s, etc.) is not permitted.
- The use of backing tracks is not permitted.
- All contractors entering Church property must carry current Public Liability Insurance of at least \$10million.
- All electrical equipment brought onto Church property by contractors must have current electrical safety tags.
- A digital piano is available for use in the choir loft of the church, and access will be made available by the sacristan.
- Song lyrics printed in wedding booklets must be accompanied by the correct copyright citations.
- (The Director of Cathedral Music can assist you with this).

Should you require suggestions or advice, or if you need assistance in obtaining quality musicians – singers, an organist, a choir, string players, a trumpeter, etc. – please contact the Director of Cathedral Music on 1300-714-009 or maestro@internode.on.net

8. Copyright

The Laws of Australia concerning copyright place upon us all legal and moral obligations. It is imperative that everyone who prepares booklets for liturgies in St Patrick’s including for Weddings, observes these laws.

Video Recordings. If any music is played or hymns sung which are still under copyright then a license must be purchased for making a video which includes such music or hymns. This license is to be organized by the makers of the video. The organization to approach is Australian Mechanical Copyright Owners Society Association. Tel. 02 9954 3655 Fax 02 9954 3664. Playing of the video, even in a private home, constitutes a public performance.

Copyright – Wedding Booklets

In addition to the correct copyright citations to be included with any song lyrics you may wish to publish in your Wedding Booklet, the following citations must also be printed at the end of every booklet:

Copyright Citations:

Excerpts from the English translation of The Roman Missal © 2010, International Commission on English in the Liturgy Corporation. All rights reserved.

Excerpts from the English translation of the Rite of Marriage © 1969, International Committee on English in the Liturgy, Inc. All rights reserved.

Excerpts of Scripture from The Jerusalem Bible © 1966 by Darton Longman & Todd Ltd and Doubleday and Company Ltd.

Psalms excerpts from “The Psalms: A New Translation” © 1963 The Grail (England) published by HarperCollins.

9. Decoration of St Patrick’s

Flowers. Floral arrangements can be delivered to St Patrick’s one hour before your wedding. The Sacristan will advise the florist where to place them. No arrangements are placed directly on the floor or on/in front of the altar itself.

Candelabra. Candelabra fitted with gas fired candles may be included in the decoration of the Sanctuary in the area behind the altar.

Pew Decorations. Decorations on the centre aisle ends of the pews are permitted. They are to be attached by elastic or tying. No drawing pins, masking tape etc are to be used. No clamps as these types of attachments damage the St Patrick’s Heritage listed French polished pews. There are 25 pews on each side of the centre aisle.

Floor Decorations. No rugs and no petals are permitted in the floor of the church aisles and sanctuary. The placing of candelabra or floral arrangements between the pews or along the aisle is likewise not allowed.

Swagging is not allowed at St Patrick’s. There is not enough time to allow for it to be set up between services.

10. Photographs and Video

Knowing that every couple wishes to keep a photographic (and often video) record of their wedding, photographers and video camera persons are permitted in St Patrick’s. However, we would ask you to remind those responsible to respect the sanctity of your wedding ceremony and to be discreet at all

times. Photographers and camera people are not permitted within the sanctuary (the stepped area around the altar) at any stage during the ceremony. They may enter when you are signing the marriage documents.

It is important that you also discuss this matter with the priest officiating at your wedding.

11. Consumption of Alcohol

Please note the consumption of alcohol in the porch or grounds of the church prior to or after a wedding is not permitted.

12. Rehearsal

Most couples find it helpful for the bridal party to have a short rehearsal. Within reason, we will make St Patrick's available for rehearsals.

Arrangements for rehearsals are made through the Parish Office Only. It will be necessary for someone to be responsible for collecting the key to the Church from the Parish Office, locking the Church after the rehearsal and returning the key to the Parish Office. The Parish Secretary will make the appropriate arrangements with you. A \$20 fee is required when the key is picked up which is returned on the return of the key the following day.

13. Car Parking

Ample car parking is provided within the grounds on the western side of the Church. Parking is permitted on the tennis courts. Entry by a left hand turn only from Grote Street is permitted by law.

14. Toilets

Toilets are situated alongside the sacristy behind the altar area. Entry is via the back western side door, or if that is locked, quietly by the door alongside the pulpit from within the Church.

**If you wish to clarify any matters contained in this booklet,
please contact the Parish Office**

**Monday to Friday 8.30am - 4.30pm
on 8232 8688**

**All correspondence to Adelaide Cathedral Parish,
GPO Box 1364, Adelaide 5001**

