

# Getting Married at Cathedral of St Francis Xavier

17 Wakefield Street, Adelaide



## **1. Your Wedding Ceremony**

You have chosen the Cathedral of St Francis Xavier for your wedding. Our Cathedral is the oldest Catholic Cathedral in Australia and has a rich history. It is a place made lively by the faith and prayers of people since 1858. 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 where only one party is Catholic.

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 at the Cathedral are encouraged to participate in a Marriage Preparation Course. The enclosed leaflet gives details of those provided through our Catholic Family Services - Centacare - at 45 Wakefield Street Adelaide.

## **3. The Celebrant of Your Wedding**

Some 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. Costs**

As you would appreciate, the running and maintenance of the Cathedral and 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 the Cathedral for Weddings.

#### **Clergy Offering**

In addition to the payment made for booking the church you have chosen, there is an offering also made to the officiating priest which is sent to the central fund which supports all priests in the Archdiocese of Adelaide. The suggested offering set by the Archdiocese is \$500 and is commensurate with the fee charged by a civil celebrant. We are able to deduct this fee on your behalf when you make pay the church booking fee and then transfer it to the central fund. If you would not like us to deduct this on your behalf, you can leave a note in the booking forms.

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 \$1400 which includes a \$400 bond. Full payment of this fee is required at the time of booking. The bond will be returned after the wedding if the stipulated conditions are met. You will be contacted by the Parish Office as to arrangements for the return of the bond.

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 of the Cathedral)**

**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 if the wedding party has not left the grounds 90 minutes after scheduled starting time.**

**In keeping with item 10, 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 12 in this leaflet, the bond will be forfeited if alcohol is consumed in the Cathedral porch or grounds 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.**

## **5. 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.

## **Restoration Work at Cathedral**

The Cathedral of St Francis Xavier has been the Cathedral Parish church for 150 years and of necessity from time to time requires restoration and maintenance work.

Such work may require scaffolding and hoardings erected for safety purposes, both inside and outside the building, or closure of the Cathedral. Wedding parties will be advised in advance of any such intended work. Please note that the Parish cannot be liable for any resulting financial loss.

## **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.

10.00 am                      1.30 pm                      3.30 pm

We do not have Sunday Weddings. It is essential that your wedding start on time. This is because a) Saturday is always an extremely busy day in the Cathedral and b) people involved in your wedding - Priest, Organist, Singers, Bell-Ringers 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 the Cathedral 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 music for Church is a requirement. Musicians are not provided as part of your Church Booking Fee. Lyrics must be compatible to the Christian understanding of marriage and Christian values. Extra care needs to be taken for songs during communion. Hymns are preferred at this time. The following conditions must also be met:

- Your priest is responsible for approving suitable music selections for wedding ceremonies in the Adelaide Cathedral Parish. Please consult with him and follow his guidance as to the suitability of the music/singing that you plan for your wedding.
- Songs using the word "Yahweh" should not be chosen out of sensitivity to our Jewish brothers and sisters.
- **Pre-recorded music (CDs, MP3s, etc.) is not permitted.**
- All contractors entering Church property must carry current Public Liability Insurance.
- All electrical equipment brought onto Church property by contractors must have current electrical safety tags.
- Song lyrics printed in wedding booklets must be accompanied by the correct copyright citations.
- Keyboard is available for hire on the wedding day (\$50)

## 8. Bells

The Cathedral is able to offer you the choice of having a single bell rung from the time that you leave the altar. The cost of bell is included in the church fee. Please indicate on your booking form (Form C) if you would like this to occur.

The Cathedral rejoices in having the largest peal of bells in Adelaide, installed in 1996 when the Tower was completed. The Bell-Ringers can be booked for your wedding - a minimum of six people will ring for 20 minutes, starting as you leave the altar at the conclusion of the ceremony. The cost of \$500 helps to maintain the bells and the ringing-ropes. The bells are booked through [sfx@adelaidebellringers.org.au](mailto:sfx@adelaidebellringers.org.au). Please note that bell ringing time will be shortened if the ceremony is delayed due to late arrival.

## **9. 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 the Cathedral, 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 on 1300 852 388. 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.

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

## **10. Decoration of the Cathedral**

*Flowers.* Additional floral arrangements can be delivered to the Cathedral one hour before your wedding. The Sacristan will advise the florist where to place them. The Cathedral has four brass pedestals which may be used. 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 Cathedral's Heritage listed French polished pews. There are 23 pews on each side of the centre aisle.

*Floor Decorations.* No rugs and no petals are permitted on the floor of the Cathedral 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 in the Cathedral. There is simply not enough time to allow for it to be set up between services.

## **11. 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 the Cathedral. 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.

*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 on 1300 852 388. Playing of the video, even in a private home, constitutes a public performance.

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

## **12. Consumption of Alcohol**

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

### **13. Rehearsal**

Most couples find it helpful for the bridal party to have a short rehearsal. Within reason, we will make the Cathedral available for rehearsals. Rehearsals take place on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday at 6.30pm. Arrangements for rehearsals are made through the Parish Office Only.

### **14. Car Parking**

On the weekend, ample car parking is provided in the underground car park of the Diocesan Centre. Entry by a left hand turn only from Wakefield Street is permitted by law. There will be NO PARKING on weekdays.

The Sacristan will direct the wedding cars to a reserved area close to the side porch doors.

There is to be no parking on the driveway or within the Cathedral grounds. It must be kept free as an emergency entrance/exit at all times.

### **15. Wedding Cars – Parking**

Most drivers have difficulty getting the stretch limousine into the Cathedral driveway. If you require parking space in front of the Cathedral (because of the limousine) you must contact the Adelaide Town Hall 8203 7777 and ask for "On Street Services" to reserve parking space. They require at least 3 days notice before the wedding. This is a council regulation and must be booked by the person/s requiring the parking area.

### **16. Toilets**

Toilets are situated in the Cathedral Hall area. Entrance is across the lawns on the eastern side of the Cathedral.

**Adelaide Cathedral Parish Office**  
**Monday to Friday 9.30am - 4.30pm**  
**E: [acp@adelaide.catholic.org.au](mailto:acp@adelaide.catholic.org.au)**

**P: 8210 8155**  
**[www.adelcathparish.org](http://www.adelcathparish.org)**