

# Getting Married at St Mary's Church

179 Stanley St, North Adelaide



## **1. Your Wedding Ceremony**

St Mary's Church has recently been restored as a place of beauty and worship in the life of the Lower North Adelaide community. We are pleased to offer the Church to the wider community for Catholic marriages.

The Church seats approximately 150 guests in an intimate space. A flexible open area in the sanctuary means most current wedding arrangements can be accommodated. The Church is fully air-conditioned and has full wheel-chair access.

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 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 45 Wakefield Street Adelaide.

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

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 Mary's, 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 Mary'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 \$1100 which includes a \$300 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.

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

11am

1.00 pm

3.00 pm

It is essential that your wedding start on time. This is because 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.

**Please Note:** Access to the church is provided by the rostered sacristan 1 hour before your booked wedding time. This time is available to you for setting up flowers and other preparations for your wedding.

## **7. Music for Your Wedding**

When you choose to marry in St Mary'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.

The Church is equipped with a modern sound system including an amplifier and a facility to connect a MP3 (iPod) player. There is an electronic keyboard; alternatively portable musical instruments are welcome. Musicians are asked to provide their own amplification (if necessary).

Appropriate Church music is a requirement. Musicians are not provided as part of your Church Booking Fee. Whilst live music is preferred it is possible to use alternatives. 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.
- 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.

## **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 Mary'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 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.

## **9. Decoration of St Mary’s**

*Flowers.* Floral arrangements can be delivered to St Mary’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 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 Mary'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 Mary'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.

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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 Mary's available for rehearsals.

Arrangements for rehearsals are made through the Parish Office Only.

**Rehearsals take place on weekdays. 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.**

**Adelaide Cathedral Parish Office**

**Monday to Friday 9.30am - 4.30pm**

**P: 8210 8155      E: [acp@adelaide.catholic.org.au](mailto:acp@adelaide.catholic.org.au)**

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

