

Your Wedding
in
The Anglican
Parish of Stirling



Thank you for your enquiry. We are delighted you have chosen one of our churches for your marriage, and we will play our part in helping to make it a wonderful occasion.

The information below will help you and us as the arrangements are made.

It is unwise to assume that telephone messages requesting a wedding establish that the wedding can be performed here. The form enclosed with this information booklet should be completed and returned as soon as possible with the **Booking Fee**. A receipt will be issued together with **confirmation of the booking**. If there are any possible problems, a preliminary interview may be requested.



1 LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

The prescribed **Notice of Intended Marriage** must be completed accurately and received by the priest or minister you've asked to celebrate your wedding not more than six months and not less than one month before the marriage. (Under very special circumstances, the Registrar can approve a shorter notice period.)

Where a person lives interstate or in another country, arrangements can be made for the Notice of Intended Marriage to be completed and sent to the priest or minister you've asked to celebrate your wedding.

The priest or minister you've asked to celebrate your wedding must sight the original or certified copy of the birth certificates (not Extract of Entry). If, because of sickness or any other reason, there has to be a change of priests, the person actually conducting the marriage will also have to sight them.

The minimum age for marriage is 18 years. Persons aged 16 to 18 can only be married with parental consent or a Court Order.

Solemn Declarations have to be made (usually at the rehearsal), signed, and witnessed by the Priest or minister you have asked to celebrate your wedding prior to the ceremony. These refer to age, marital status, and absence of legal impediments.

In the case of people who have previously been married, the priest or minister you've asked to celebrate your wedding will need to sight the relevant death certificate or decree absolute.

Two witnesses, who must be 18 years of age or over, must be present at the wedding and witness the signatures of the bride and groom. Usually these are the best man and bridesmaid.



2 CHURCH REQUIREMENTS

Marriage vows are a life-long commitment and should be taken only after careful thought. For this reason, we strongly encourage couples to prepare for their marriage by enrolling in a preparation course conducted by *Anglicare SA*. These courses are organised and led by experienced, trained counsellors and come highly recommended by those couples who have completed them. We strongly encourage all couples to take part in such a course as early as possible.

People who are divorced may only be married in church if the priest has obtained the Archbishop's permission for the marriage. A minimum notice-period of 6 months is therefore normal, and because permission may not necessarily be given, no firm date can be set until the process is completed. The Church strives to deal sympathetically with those whose first marriage has come to an end.

It is recommended that all couples contact the priest or minister you've asked to celebrate your wedding as soon as possible after making their booking to begin their preparation for the marriage service. The marriage service is detailed in *A Prayer Book for Australia*. At interviews with the priest or minister you have asked to celebrate your wedding the couple will fill out the Notice of Intended Marriage, organise the wedding service and finally attend a rehearsal.

The service (including signing the documents) takes about 40 minutes, and it is expected that punctuality will be observed. Where the bride and groom are both confirmed, a Nuptial Mass (which adds 15 minutes to the service) may be considered.

The bride and groom are encouraged to attend the Holy Communion service on the Sunday before their marriage and, of course, at other times before and after the marriage (especially if they plan to live in the district).

If you do not come from the Stirling Parish, or do not intend living nearby after marriage, the clergy will refer you to the parish priest where you will be living, and will encourage you to belong to the congregation there.

Other clergy may be invited to conduct the marriage service and clergy of other denominations may be invited to assist, but in all cases the Parish Priest's permission must be sought well in advance of the wedding.

Marriages are not solemnised in the churches of the Stirling Parish during Holy Week (the week leading up to Easter Day).



3 FEES

The charges for a Marriage Service conducted in the churches of the Stirling Parish by one of the Parish clergy are listed below. If you wish a priest from another parish to conduct your marriage, you should also discuss with him or her what fee and travelling allowance he or she expects to receive, and pay him or her direct.

The Booking Fee of \$50.00 is non-refundable. It is payable when the Application for Booking a Wedding form is returned.

Cheques for fees should be made payable to *Stirling Anglican Parish*.

The fees quoted below are required before or on the day of the rehearsal.

The Director of Music at Crafers and the Organist at Aldgate are on contract, and their fees are due and payable prior to the marriage even if you choose to invite other musicians to play instead.

Fees as at 1/1/2007 (Subject to periodic adjustment)

Crafers			Aldgate and Bridgewater	
Notice Fee (non-refundable)	\$50		Notice Fee (non-refundable)	\$50
Marriage Fee *	\$1200		Marriage Fee	\$690
* includes Choir				



4 AT THE CHURCH

All arrangements about decorating, photography, video and sound recording, etc, must be approved by the priest or minister you've asked to celebrate your wedding.

Confetti is not permitted. Rose petals or rice may be used instead if desired.

Most couples prefer readings. The priest the content and fo

cost if required.

The Church at Crafers seats 170 very comfortably, the Aldgate church 70, and 40 at Bridgewater.

It is a help if two ushers are on duty to welcome the guests, and seat them to advantage in the Church. At Crafers other ushers can also be used to assist with car parking—lawns and gravelled areas are to be kept free of cars. Room must be left for the bridal cars.

When the weather is wet, or on other occasions on request, the sanctuary area of the Church may be used for photographs after the ceremony. The formal ‘walking back up the aisle’ will still occur first.

Mrs Valerie Pullan is the Weddings Verger at Crafers. She prepares the church for your wedding, and will be happy to help you if you have any queries. Her ‘phone number is [08] 8339 3450.

You may consider it useful to issue guests with a map of the locality, to assist in finding the church, so we have included one on page 8.



5 MUSIC

Each church in the Stirling Parish has a different musical tradition. Secular songs may of course be sung at your Wedding Reception, but are not permitted in the marriage service.

The **Church of the Epiphany** at Crafers is noted for its fine musical tradition. The Organist and Director of Music, Mr Colin Curtis, can be consulted regarding choice of music. Selection of your choral music can also be aided by a demonstration with several choristers by appointment. Special music, and the engagement of instrumental ensembles and vocalists, must be discussed with Mr Curtis (‘phone [08] 8569 1123). In addition a “sampler” CD recording is available from the Parish Office to help you choose your music.

The **Crafers Treble Choir** normally leads the congregational singing and performs other suitable music for weddings e.g. a choral processional and psalm, two anthems during the signing of the register and a choral blessing

The organist at the **Church of the Ascension** at Aldgate is Mrs Betty Bull (‘phone [08] 8388 5415). Since there is no choir to lead the singing at Aldgate, Mrs Bull is

happy to help you choose very well-known hymns as well as to discuss other incidental music with you.

The **Church of St Michael and All Angels** at Bridgewater has no organ, but piano and other instrumental music is used there. Couples wishing to be married at Bridgewater should consult with the parish clergy about the provision of music.



6 FLOWERS AND DECORATIONS

The Flower Guilds in each church usually provide and arrange flowers for your wedding. All flowers must remain in the church after the wedding for the Sunday Services, except during Lent (see below). The cost of provision of flowers is included in the total marriage fee (see p.4).

On some special occasions such as Christmas and Easter the churches are splendidly decorated. During Lent, however, it is our custom to have no flowers in the church. Couples being married in the six weeks prior to Easter will need to notify the Church if they wish the Flower Guild to provide and arrange flowers.

We are prepared to arrange flowers in your colour scheme if possible, as long as you make your requests known as soon as you can. If you would like any extra special flowers, we ask that you provide them.

At Crafers we normally provide three urns of flowers—two in the sanctuary and one in the porch. Should you require any additional arrangements, there may be a further cost.

At Aldgate we normally provide one urn and two vases of flowers. Any additional arrangements will involve a further cost.

If you prefer, you may provide your own floral arrangements, or pay a florist to do so, but please let us know as soon as possible. You may use the church vases, provided that they are not removed from the church at any time. Such flowers must be left in place for the Sunday Service.

If you would like to attach posies and/or bows to the ends of pews, they must be tied with ribbon or elastic. **Adhesive tape, Blu-Tak or pins and staples that stick into the woodwork may not be used.**

Whatever arrangements you would like to make concerning the flowers for your wedding, please make sure that you contact the Flower Guild Co-ordinator. The Priest or minister you have asked to celebrate your wedding will give you her name and

contact details when you come for your first interview.



7 CELEBRATORY DRINKS

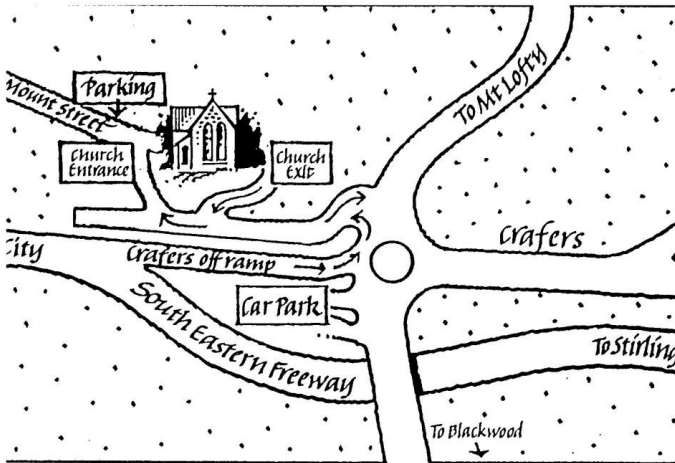
Would you like champagne served to your guests outside the church after your wedding? The parish is happy to offer this service at a moderate charge as under:

champagne, mineral water and lemon squash, with rice crackers—\$35.00 plus \$3.50 per head.

Champagne and accompaniments are served immediately after the service for 30 minutes (usually the duration of the photographs).

Please indicate your requirements on the form at the time of booking your wedding or three months prior to the service together with the estimated number of people to be served. Please ring Valerie Pullan on 8339 3450.

Sometimes people like to include those who have come to the church but who are not going on to the reception. At the conclusion of the serving of refreshments, the verger will inform you of the exact number served, so that you may make out your cheque.



The Parish of Stirling

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