

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. An application form must be completed and returned as soon as possible with the **Booking Fee**. A receipt will be issued together with **confirmation of the booking**, via email or post. If there are any possible problems, a preliminary interview may be requested. Please note that fulfilling the legal requirements for marriage may take up to 6 months.



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 Preparation Course

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 S.A.* 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.

Previous Marriage

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.

Ceremony Preparation and Rehearsal

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.

Church Attendance

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.

Visiting Clergy

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.

Holy Week

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

Other Restrictions

If either bride or groom arrive at the wedding affected by alcohol or drugs, the wedding cannot proceed. If either of the intended witnesses arrive in such a state, other witnesses will need to be selected.



3 BOOKING PROCEDURE AND FEES

The charges for a Marriage Service conducted in the churches of the Stirling Parish by one of the Parish clergy are listed below.

Application – An application in writing is required to be lodged with the Parish Secretary along with the booking fee. The Application for Booking a Wedding form is available on our website www.stirlinganglican.org.au
The Booking Fee of \$50.00 is non-refundable.

Payment

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

Payments can also be made in cash or via a bank transfer to the Stirling Anglican Parish account.

Our Parish secretary can be contacted Wednesday to Friday 9.30am-3.00pm

Ph 8339 1274 or email epiphany@internode.on.net

Set Fees

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

This is a set rate and includes payment of our clergy, our wedding verger, musicians and flower arrangements. Please note there is no reduction if you decide to use other clergy and musicians, or to provide your own flowers. Parishioners are requested to discuss costs with the Parish Priest.

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.

If you wish a priest / minister from another parish or denomination 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.

Fees as at 1/7/2013 (Subject to periodic adjustment)

Crafers		Aldgate and Bridgewater	
Notice Fee (non-refundable)	\$50	Notice Fee (non-refundable)	\$50
Marriage Fee *	\$1500	Marriage Fee	\$780
* includes CI			

4 AT THE CHURCH

Wedding Verger

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.

For Aldgate and Bridgewater, please contact the Parish Secretary on 8339 1274.

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

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.

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.

Wedding leaflet

Most couples prefer to have a wedding leaflet. These may include hymns, prayers and readings. The priest or minister you've asked to celebrate your wedding will help with the content and format.

The Parish Secretary can produce the leaflet at reasonable cost if required. Please arrange at least one month prior to the wedding date to allow for editing and printing.

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 not during 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). 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 our Wedding Verger, Mrs Valerie Pullan. Ph 8339 3450.



7 CELEBRATORY DRINKS

We do not provide a catering service, however, drinks served after the service may be arranged through our Wedding Verger.

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

Please indicate your requirements on the Application form at the time of booking your wedding (or to our verger at least three months prior to the service), together with the estimated number of people to be served. Please ring our Wedding Verger, Valerie Pullan on 8339 3450 to discuss any details.

Cost

If you provide your own champagne and any refreshments to be served, the cost is \$400 plus a \$4.00 per head service charge over 100 guests.(eg., \$440.00 for 110 guests).

If you need us to provide champagne, mineral water and lemon squash, with rice crackers, the cost is \$550.00 plus a \$5.50 per head service charge over 100 guests. (eg., \$605.00 for 110 guests)

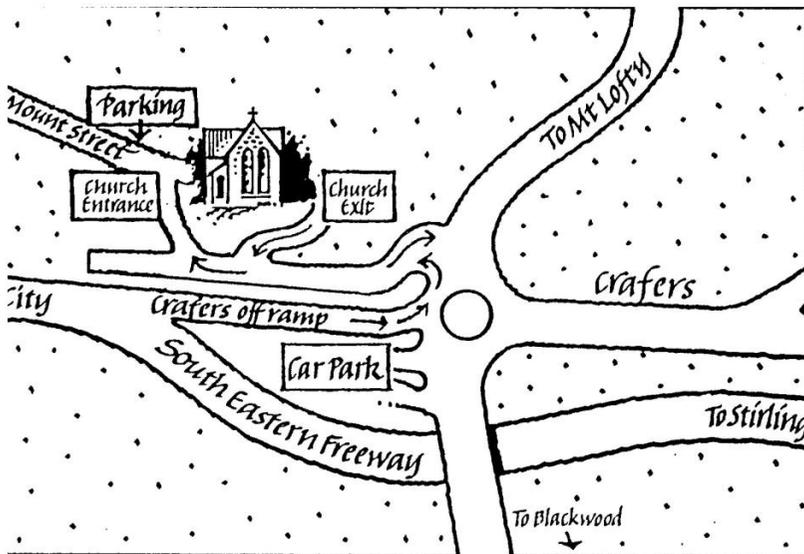
Payment

Please arrange payment of this with Parish Office close to the wedding date when you have a clear idea of the number of guests you expect at the wedding.

Sometimes people like to include those who have come to the church but who are not going on to the reception.

Additional payment for extra guests is payable on the day of the wedding. Please pay by cash or cheque made payable to Stirling Anglican Parish, and hand this to our Wedding Verger.





The Parish of Stirling

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Parish Priest:
The Rev'd Peter
Telephone [08]
peter.balabansl