

Information for Marriage within the Church

Concerning Marriage in the Church Jesus said, "From the beginning of creation, God made them male and female. For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh. So they are no longer two, but one flesh. Therefore, what God has joined together, let no one separate." (Mark10)

The Anglican Church of Canada affirms, according to our Lord's teaching as found in Holy Scripture and expressed in the form of Solemnization of Matrimony in the Book of Common Prayer, that marriage is a lifelong union in faithful love, and marriage vows are a commitment of this union, for better or for worse, to the exclusion of all others on either side. This union is established by God's grace when two duly qualified persons enter into a covenant of marriage in which they declare their intention of fulfilling its purposes and exchange vows to be faithful to one another until they are separated by death. The purposes of marriage are mutual fellowship, support, and comfort, and the procreation (if it may be) and nurture of children, and the creation of a relationship in which sexuality may serve personal fulfillment in a community of faithful love. This covenant is made in the sight of God and in the presence of witnesses and of an authorized minister. (*On Marriage In the Church, Canon XXI*)

Contact Your Priest

Before making any arrangements, couples seeking to be married should consult their priest. Your priest is responsible for explaining the Church's teaching on marriage and the need for God's grace.

Time of Marriage

A request for marriage should be made to the clergy at least three months before the proposed wedding date. Divorced persons are to submit an application to the Diocese for the approval of the Bishop and the Chancellor of the diocese. The clergy will assist in this pastoral matter.

Marriage Preparation

Couples are "asked to avail themselves of a marriage preparation course or program so that all who seek marriage in the Church may come to it with a Christian understanding of the realities of marriage, and may be encouraged to give with God's help to the vows which they are preparing to make." (Canon XXI part I: Prerequisites for marriage) A couple living away from the host parish will arrange for a marriage preparation course with the assistance of the rector of their home parish. A letter of recommendation from their home parish will be forwarded to the host parish.

Age

No priest shall solemnize the marriage of persons either of whom is under sixteen years of age.

Licences

A couple requesting marriage must meet the civil requirements of the province of

Newfoundland and Labrador, and obtain a license from the appropriate authority. The marriage can be solemnized only within a period of thirty days following the date of issue of the licence. Marriage licence issuers are located in several communities throughout the Province. Information regarding issuers in your area is available from the Vital Statistics, Department of Government Services and Lands. (www.gs.gov.nl.ca/birth/getting_married/index.html). The licence should be brought to the Church office as soon as it is obtained, and in any event at least five days before the date of the wedding. [In the Port aux Basques area the person who issues the Marriage Licence is Carl Buffett 695-9630].

Baptism

No priest shall solemnize matrimony between two persons neither of whom has been baptized.

Place of Marriage

Marriages are performed in the Church however, with the change in Canon XXI of the Anglican Church of Canada, marriages are now permitted outside the Church building, in which case the Bishop should be contacted and his approval received before proceeding with preparations for the marriage.

Marriages must be solemnized in the presence of at least two witnesses in addition to the officiating priest.

The Priest is in charge of the Service

The priest shall be responsible for the conduct of the marriage service. In the Anglican Church of Canada there are two official marriage services to choose from: The Book of Common Prayer, page 563, or The Book of Alternative Services, page 528 or 541. No other of service may be used.

In consultation with the rector of the host parish, another Anglican clergy may officiate, and clergy of any denomination may participate in the marriage ceremony. The rector of the host parish will extend the invitation.

Photographs:

During the ceremony, an official photographer and/ or videographer may take pictures or videos at appropriate times during the service. Permission of the minister is necessary. Nothing should distract anyone from concentrating on the promises the couple are making before God. Ask your photographer to consult with your priest before the service so that these details can be worked.

Confetti

No Confetti, rice, bubbles, or flower petals is to be used in the church or at the approaches to the church.

Church Building

Our church, its design and contents, have been developed over the centuries.

Many furnishings within our church have specific meanings, purpose and location. No significant changes or additions may be made. Flowers, however, may be added for the service if they are appropriately placed.

Bridal Party

It is suggested that a bridal party include no more than 12 people. This would include such people as the bride and groom, the best man and the maid of honour, the brides attendants and the grooms attendants, the flower girls and the ring bearers. It is also advisable that no one in the bridal party be under 5 years of age. The two witnesses who will sign the official documents must be of legal age in order for the wedding to be legal.

Music:

The choice of music must be made in consultation with the clergy to ensure the content reflects a Christian understanding of marriage.

Some music selections appropriate for Marriage Liturgies v Perfect Love Lead Us,
Heavenly Father Lead Us

Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee

Come Fill My World

The Voice the Breathed O'er Eden Only A Shadow

Ave Maria – Schubert

The Bridal chorus

The Wedding March Canon in D – Pachelbel Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring

Irish Wedding Song

Ave Maria – Contemporary

I Will be Here – Severn Curtis Chapman The Battle Hymn of Love

I Give You My Word

On This Day

There is Love

The Rose

From this Moment This is The day Together

Wedding Prayer

Bridegroom and Bride

Come to a Wedding, Come to a Blessing

Be our Chief Guest, Lord

Musical Instruments other than those provided by the church, are permitted provided they do not detract from the sanctity of the Sacrament.

The cost for the Organist/musician or soloist is the responsibility of the couple.

Readings and Psalms Suitable for Marriage Liturgies

Selected scripture readings are usually chosen by the couple. Listed are readings and Psalms you can choose from that are suitable for Marriage services.

Old Testament Reading

A reading from the Book of Genesis. (Genesis 1.27-28, 31a)

So God created humankind in his image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them.

28 God blessed them, and God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth and subdue it; and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the air and over every living thing that moves upon the earth." 31 God saw everything that he had made, and indeed, it was very good. The Word of the Lord.

A reading from the book of Tobit. (Tobit 8.5b-8)

"Blessed are you, O God of our ancestors, and blessed is your name in all generations forever. Let the heavens and the whole creation bless you forever. 6 You made Adam, and for him you made his wife Eve as a helper and support.

From the two of them the human race has sprung. You said, 'It is not good that the man should be alone; let us make a helper for him like himself.' 7 I now am taking this kinswoman of mine, not because of lust, but with sincerity.

Grant that she and I may find mercy and that we may grow old together."

8 And they both said, "Amen, Amen."

The Word of the Lord.

New Testament Readings

A reading from Paul's letter to the Colossians. (Colossians 3.12-17)

As God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience. 13 Bear with one another and, if anyone has a complaint against another, forgive each other; just as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. 14 Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. 15 And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in the one body. And be thankful. 16 Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly; teach and admonish one another in all wisdom; and with gratitude in your hearts sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs to God. 17 And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

The Word of the Lord.

A reading from Paul's 1st Letter to the Corinthians. (1 Corinthians 13)

If I speak in the tongues of mortals and of angels, but do not have love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. 2 And if I have prophetic powers, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing. 3 If I give away all my possessions, and if I hand over my body so that I may boast, but do not have love, I gain nothing. 4 Love is patient; love is kind; love is not envious or boastful or arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; 6 it does not rejoice in wrongdoing, but rejoices in the truth. 7 It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. 8 Love never ends. But as for prophecies, they will come to an end; as for tongues, they will cease; as for knowledge, it will come to an end. 9 For we know only in part, and we prophesy only in part; 10 but when the complete comes, the partial will come to an end. 11 When I was a child, I spoke like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a

child; when I became an adult, I put an end to childish ways. 12For now we see in a mirror, dimly, but then we will see face to face. Now I know only in part; then I will know fully, even as I have been fully known. 13And now faith, hope, and love abide, these three; and the greatest of these is love.

The Word of the Lord.

A reading from Paul's reading to the Ephesians. (Ephesians 3.14-19)

For this reason I bow my knees before the Father, 15from whom every family in heaven and on earth takes its name. 16I pray that, according to the riches of his glory, he may grant that you may be strengthened in your inner being with power through his Spirit, 17and that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith, as you are being rooted and grounded in love. 18I pray that you may have the power to comprehend, with all the saints, what is the breadth and length and height and depth, 19and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, so that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.

The Word of the Lord.

A reading from Paul's letter to the Romans. (Romans 12.1-2, 9-13)

I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. 2Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God--what is good and acceptable and perfect. 9 Let love be genuine; hate what is evil, hold fast to what is good; 10love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honour. 11Do not lag in zeal, be ardent in spirit, serve the Lord. 12Rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer. 13Contribute to the needs of the saints; extend hospitality to strangers.

The Word of the Lord.

A reading from the 1st letter of John. (1 John 4.7-12)

Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. 8Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love. 9God's love was revealed among us in this way: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through him. 10In this is love, not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. 11Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. 12No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God lives in us, and his love is perfected in us.

The Word of the Lord.

Gospel Readings

Leader: The Lord be with you. (Matthew 5.1-10) People: And also with you.

Leader: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew. People: Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain; and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. 2Then he began to speak, and taught them, saying:
3 "Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
4 "Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.
5 "Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.
6 "Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.
7 "Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.
8 "Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.
9 "Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.
10 "Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Leader: The Gospel of Christ.
People: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Leader: The Lord be with you. (John 15.9-12) People: And also with you.
Leader: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John. People: Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.
Jesus said, "The Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. 10If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. 11I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete.
12 "This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you."
Leader: The Gospel of Christ.
People: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Leader: The Lord be with you. (Matthew 22.35-40) People: And also with you.
Leader: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew. People: Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.
When the Pharisees heard that he had silenced the Sadducees, they gathered together, 35and one of them, a lawyer, asked him a question to test him.
36"Teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest?" 37He said to him, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.' 38This is the greatest and first commandment. 39And a second is like it: 'You shall love your neighbour as yourself.' 40On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets."
Leader: The Gospel of Christ.
People: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Leader: The Lord be with you. (Mark 10.6-9) People: And also with you.
Leader: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark. People: Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.
From the beginning of creation, 'God made them male and female.' 7'For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, 8and the two shall become one flesh.' So they are no longer two, but one flesh. 9Therefore what God has joined together, let no one separate." Leader: The Gospel of Christ.

People: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Leader: The Lord be with you. (John 2.1-11) People: And also with you.

Leader: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John. People:
Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

On the third day there was a wedding in Cana of Galilee, and the mother of Jesus was there. 2Jesus and his disciples had also been invited to the wedding. 3When the wine gave out, the mother of Jesus said to him, "They have no wine." 4And Jesus said to her, "Woman, what concern is that to you and to me? My hour has not yet come." 5His mother said to the servants, "Do whatever he tells you." 6Now standing there were six stone water jars for the Jewish rites of purification, each holding twenty or thirty gallons. 7Jesus said to them, "Fill the jars with water." And they filled them up to the brim. 8He said to them, "Now draw some out, and take it to the chief steward." So they took it.

9When the steward tasted the water that had become wine, and did not know where it came from (though the servants who had drawn the water knew), the steward called the bridegroom 10and said to him, "Everyone serves the good wine first, and then the inferior wine after the guests have become drunk. But you have kept the good wine until now." 11Jesus did this, the first of his signs, in Cana of Galilee, and revealed his glory; and his disciples believed in him.

Leader: The Gospel of Christ.

People: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Psalms

A reading from Psalm 67.

1 May God be gracious to us and bless us and make his face to shine upon us,

2 that your way may be known upon earth, your saving power among all nations.

3 Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you.

4 Let the nations be glad and sing for joy, for you judge the peoples with equity and guide the nations upon earth.

5 Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you.

6 The earth has yielded its increase; God, our God, has blessed us.

7 May God continue to bless us; let all the ends of the earth revere him. -----

Examples of Orders of Worship

COPY OF Order of Service without Eucharist (Book of Alternative Services)

Prelude..... Canon in D

Processional..... Bridal Chorus The

Gathering of the Community..... Page 541 The

Proclamation of the Word

First Reading:..... Genesis 1:27-28, 31a

Second Reading: John 15:9-12 The

Homily
The Wedding..... Page 543
Lighting of the Unity Candle
Signing of the Register
Prayers of the People..... Page 546 The
Lord’s Prayer..... Page 547 The
Blessing of the Marriage..... Page 548 The
Exchange of the Peace
The Presentation of the Bride and Groom
Recessional..... Trumpet Voluntary

COPY OF Order of Service WITH EUCHARIST (Book of Alternative Services)
Prelude..... Canon in D
Processional..... Bridal Chorus The
Gathering of the Community..... Page 528 The
Proclamation of the Word
First Reading:..... Genesis 1:27-28, 31a
Second Reading: John 15:9-12 The
Homily
The Wedding..... Pages 530-532
Lighting of the Unity Candle
Signing of the Register
Prayers of the People..... Page 533
The Blessing of the Marriage..... Page 534
The Exchange of the Peace
The Liturgy of the Eucharist..... Page 535
The Lord’s Prayer..... Page 539
The Communion..... Page 539
The Presentation of the Bride and Groom
Recessional..... Trumpet Voluntary -----

Marriage Offering:

You have come to your Church to get married. Your church in turn is delighted to help in any way. Your church will work with you to ensure that this time in your lives is a special time. It will also be there to support you in your future life together. In turn your church asks for your support to help. A Marriage offering given to the church should be at least \$100.00. This will help offset church and other parish expense. Your offering is to be paid at least three days prior to the wedding. It must be paid through the Parish secretary who will issue a receipt for Income Tax Purposes.