

The Practicalities of Marriage

The rehearsal will take place within a fortnight prior to the wedding. The people normally attendant at the rehearsal are the bride and groom, the grooms supporter and principle bridesmaid and those who will be taking an active part in the Wedding Service itself (lectors, ushers etc) By the time of the rehearsal it is imperative that the Marriage Licenses from the Registrar be ready and already presented to Fr Philipp or Deacon John. All fees for the marriage are due in full at least one month before the wedding takes place and should be forwarded to the Parish Priest.

Marriage Fees:

Weddings at the Good Shepherd Church £250. This is made up of £75 to the Church Maintenance Fund; £50 Civil Registration and attendant paperwork fee; £125 Stole fee.

For couples prepared for marriage elsewhere a donation of £50 is suggested towards the Church Maintenance Fund.

For a non Parochial member of the Clergy officiating at the wedding or visiting organists the parish follows standard Diocesan procedure of presuming the same offering to the parish of £200 to support its needs.

Organists, musicians and flower arrangers will be pleased to speak of their own fee structure to support your marriage. If for any reason money is a major problem this will be renegotiated to meet your needs.

Informing The Registry Office:

Once you have booked a date for your wedding at the Good Shepherd Church, you may wish to arrange a function venue. You will need to go to your local Registry Office to inform them of your intention to marry. Please make these arrangements as soon as possible. Civil preliminaries for marriage are as follow: there is a 15 day notice period. Both parties must be given in the district(s) where both parties have their usual residence for the seven days prior to giving notice. Each party must now attend in person before the Superintendent Registrar in order to give their notice of marriage. You will be issued with a certificate granting legal permission for your wedding to take place. Please give this certificate to Fr Philipp as soon as you have it. You may be asked who will register the marriage and will need to tell that Fr Philipp or Deacon John has that responsibility. There is one other person who can register marriages at the Good Shepherd Church should it be needed.

Your Order Of Service

You may wish to produce an Order Of Service for your wedding. We encourage this, but it is necessary that this confirms to the proper liturgical requirements. The priest will be able to advise you as to the appropriate choice of prayers, hymns and Scripture Readings. You will show the Officiating Priest your final draft copy before you send it to be printed.

Music at Your Wedding

You have a choice of music for your wedding, but you will need to consult with Fr Philipp-inappropriate music will not be permitted at any marriage within the Good Shepherd Church. The Church's Director of Music, or the Parish Organists will help to advise you. The Parish Director of Music can be contacted on: Michael Bussey 0115 9556322 The fees for music are negotiated directly between you and the musicians. Copyright license must be quoted on an order of service as follows: Church Copyright License No 288292 Church Video License No 1962957

The ladies who look after the flower arranging in the church are prepared to do the flowers for your wedding if they are able. If you do not wish their services please let them know as your arrangements may well affect what needs to be done in the church for Sunday. It is worth checking if there is another wedding on the same day as agreement with colour and cost may save you money. For more information contact Rebecca on 07985 328842