

St. Andrew's Episcopal Church Wedding Information

Congratulations on your pending marriage! This is an exciting time in your lives, and we share in your joy and celebration. It can also be a hectic time of preparation, so our hope is that this information sheet will answer some of the questions you may have as you consider a wedding at St. Andrew's.

Who may get married at St. Andrew's?

It is our privilege to provide for the weddings of parishioners, family members of parishioners, staff members, couples expressing an intention to join our church, and others with special affiliations to St. Andrew's. If you fall outside of these categories, feel free to call the office and talk to the Rector.

What steps do I take?

- 1) Contact the Rector, the Rev. John Rohrs, to secure a tentative wedding date on the calendar and to set up an initial meeting. Rev. Rohrs can be reached at 622-5530 or jrohrs@standrewsnorfolk.org.
- 2) If the wedding date is approved, continue meeting with the Rector for premarital counseling, which typically consists of three one-hour sessions. No preparatory work is needed, except in the case of a remarriage for one or both parties. In that case, the Rector may need a copy of your divorce decree(s) if required by diocesan policy. Out of town couples may condense their meetings into two sessions.
- 3) Contact our Wedding Coordinator, Ellie Ankerson, to discuss wedding logistics, including flower arrangements, rehearsal plans, dressing room needs, the schedule of fees, and more. Mrs. Ankerson can be reached at 623-0597.
- 4) Contact our organist, Stephen Leist, at sleist@standrewsnorfolk.org or (859) 338-9361 to make arrangements for music, if desired. If Stephen is not available, we will secure a substitute for you.
- 5) Secure a civil wedding license and deliver to the church office prior to the wedding.

What does it cost?

The use of the sanctuary is free of charge because we are joining together in praise of God and in prayer for your marriage. We are privileged to be a part of this sacred occasion. Beyond the use of the sanctuary, several modest fees do apply and are listed below. In addition, White Hall is available as a reception site for a small fee. If you have questions or concerns about these costs, please talk to the Rector.

- 1) Honorarium for the Officiant: \$300
- 2) Honorarium for the Wedding Coordinator: \$200
- 3) Honorarium for the Organist: \$200
- 4) Honorarium for the Sexton: \$100

What else do I need to know?

- 1) Rehearsals are typically scheduled the evening before the wedding. It is very helpful if all members of the wedding party are present at the rehearsal.
- 2) The Rector will assist the couple in planning the wedding liturgy, including the selection of readings, music, service participants, whether or not to celebrate Holy Eucharist, and other matters. The Rector may design a service bulletin for the couple, or the couple may design their own bulletin.
- 3) All arrangements for music should be made in consultation with the Organist and Rector.
- 4) No flash photography is permitted during the service in order to maintain the sanctity of worship. Photographers may take pictures before and after the service. On occasion, we may also permit a single, stationary video-recording from a designated area in the church.
- 5) The couple is invited to make their own arrangements for flowers in the church, and we are happy to provide guidance and a list of good local florists.
- 6) No alcohol is permitted during the rehearsal or while the wedding party dresses on the wedding day.