

Requirements for Marriage

- All couples planning to get married are requested to give at least **THREE MONTHS NOTICE** to the Priest who is responsible for filling in their marriage papers.
- In the Republic of Ireland, you must notify the Registrar of Marriages, at least 90 days before the date of the marriage. Find out where marriages are registered in your local area and contact that office. The local office in Letterkenny is at the Office of Births, Deaths and Marriages, County Clinic, St. Conal's Hospital, Letterkenny (074 -9124576 / 9123772).
- All couples must attend a Pre-Marriage Course.
- Before every marriage a Pre-Nuptial Enquiry must be completed with your Parish Priest.
- The necessary Baptismal Certificates, Confirmation Certificates and Letters of Freedom must be obtained. (These cannot be more than 6 months old).
- The celebration of marriage must be planned in consultation with the Priest / Celebrant.
- A practice (rehearsal) of the ceremony is recommended.
- Please be courteous to all involved and arrive on time for the ceremony.

Celebration of Marriage

- A carefully planned and well-celebrated wedding can be a moving and memorable experience not only for you, the couple, but also for the whole congregation. In the celebration of marriage you bring your love before God in the prayer-filled hope that God will involve himself in that love. In the presence of the Lord, you commit yourselves to each other and to a life of total fidelity and unbreakable oneness. You are also covenanted to each other by the blood of Christ and reminded that the Eucharist is a sacred banquet by drinking from the chalice.
- It is preferable that you select your own prayers, readings and formularies. You will find a link to suitable readings on our website or books are available from Veritas to help you with this. Have the priest help you in pointing out the different parts of the ceremony where you can make these choices.

General

- Encourage all who attend the ceremony to be respectful and silent inside the Church before, during and after the ceremony.
- It is important to select readers who are comfortable with reading in public.
- As it is the responsibility of the couple to return the *Marriage Registration Form* to the Register of Marriages, it is important that someone be nominated to take it away from the church after the ceremony and keep it in a safe place.

Music



- Music should be selected in consultation with the celebrant and Musicians / Singers.

Photographs & Videos



- It is important that the photographer and/or video camera person acts with complete discretion, causing the least distraction, and that they would consult with the celebrant of the marriage before the ceremony
- Please note that no extra lighting is permitted in the church.
- Posing or 'repeats' are deemed to be inappropriate.

Flowers



- It is essential that the Florist discuss flower arrangements with the Celebrant.
- Pre-existing flower arrangements that are removed from the church for the ceremony should be left in the Flower Room at the back of the church.
- You may also contact the coordinator of the Altar Society regarding flowers through the Parish Office (074-9127600).
- Please note that artificial flowers and archways are not permitted in the church.
- No flower arrangements are to be placed on the altar.
- Flowers for your wedding are your gift to God and, like any gift, should not be removed from the church.
- On occasions where 2 or more weddings take place on the same day/weekend, it is recommended to consult with the other bridal party to see if flowers can be arranged to suit both parties. (For example use white flowers/ribbons, etc.)
- The use of confetti / rice inside or around the church grounds is not recommended

Visit www.gettingmarried.ie on the web for useful information on preparing your wedding day.