



*YOUR
WEDDING
At
TRINITY
CHURCH*



Introduction

This booklet is designed to help you plan your wedding. We are thrilled that you are considering Trinity Episcopal Church in Trumbull for your wedding. Please read it over carefully before your initial meeting with the Rector.

Being married in the Church is more than just an outward ceremony. If you wish the Church to bless your marriage, then both the ceremony and your marriage itself need to be discussed.

The first step in planning your wedding is to contact the Rector. The rector will arrange for your initial appointment. Both members of the couple should be available for this. Be prepared to discuss the date of your wedding.

Who May Be Married at Trinity?

Trinity welcomes heterosexual and same-gender couples to be married in the parish, and has available several rites for weddings from the *Book of Common Prayer*, as well as the recently developed alternative, *I will Bless you and you will be a Blessing*.

The following will help you understand who may be married at Trinity and under what circumstances. Please note that the Rector has the right to decline any marriage.

Parish Members:

Any Trinity Church parish member may be married here. Only one member of the couple **MUST** be baptized. An initial appointment should be made as far as possible in advance of the wedding.



Non-Members:

People who are not members of the parish may also be married at Trinity if they are interested in becoming part of the church family. In such cases, we ask that couples begin the process by attending church and worshipping with us.

Non-affiliated Persons:

Couples not affiliated with any parish may also be married at Trinity for a rental fee for the facility. In those cases, they supply their own clergy or Justice of the Peace, and pay any regular fees such as those for the Sexton. In such cases, there is no Marriage Preparation process with the Rector.

Marriage Preparation

The Rector requires a number of sessions of Pre-Marital Conversation depending on your situation. In the event that this is a second marriage for one or both of you, an additional session or more may be necessary and an application to the Bishop will be made, primarily focused on assuring care for any children from prior marriages.

During the marriage preparation process, the Rector will plan the details of the service with the couple, including details of the ceremony, hymns or other sacred music, scripture or other sacred readings, whether it will be a Eucharistic service, whether other clergy will participate, and other details. As noted above, a variety of liturgical resources are available for couples to help them design their wedding.

Wedding Details

Marriage License:

This must be obtained at the Trumbull Town Hall and should be applied for about 30 days before the wedding. This must be given to the Rector on the night of the wedding rehearsal. Under no circumstances will a wedding be performed without a properly executed marriage license.

Photography:

No flash photographs may be taken during the ceremony itself. Flash may be used during the procession and recession but once the Priest begins to speak, flash is not permitted. Available light pictures may be taken from the back of the church or the balcony during the service. Pictures may be "staged" after the service at which time flash is permitted.

Videography:

Weddings may be video-taped. However, no extra lights are permitted, and the videographer will be limited to the balcony or the back of the church. A second camera may be used during the procession or recession.

Flowers:



Altar flowers may be provided from your florist if you wish or the Parish Administrator can recommend a florist.

Rehearsal:

The wedding rehearsal is usually held the night before the ceremony. All members of the bridal party should be present along with both sets of parents, and any individuals who are doing Scripture readings. The following items must be brought to the rehearsal: *Marriage License, Wedding Rings, Fees and Donations.*

Service Bulletin:

Typically, couples arrange the preparation of their own service bulletin with assistance from the Rector. Arrangements may be made with the Parish Administrator to produce the bulletin at an extra charge.

Fees:

The following fees are appropriate:

- Organist - a minimum fee of \$200. This is negotiated with the Organist who is able to supply additional music and soloists.
- Parish Administrator – a fee of \$50 for coordinating administrative aspects of the service.
- Sexton - a standard fee of \$50 for cleaning the church and helping to co-ordinate the service.

- Church Donation - it is expected that non-members will make a donation of at least \$500 to the church.
- Clergy -There is no set fee for the wedding ceremony itself, although there is a minimum fee of \$200 for the pre-marital counseling. It is customary to make a donation of at least \$200 to the Trinity Rector's Discretionary Fund which is used exclusively to help people in need.

Other Clergy:

In the event that they come from different religious backgrounds, couples sometimes request the presence of a clergyperson from another denomination. This can usually be arranged with no problem.