



WEDDING

INFORMATION LEAFLET





WELCOME

We love that you are considering one of our churches for your forthcoming wedding. We want to express to you our heartiest congratulations and let you know that it is an honour and privilege to be part of your special day.

The information booklet is produced to help clarify some of the questions you might have, and also to facilitate the arrangements for your wedding.

CHRISTIAN MARRIAGE

God invented marriage. It was his idea right from the start of creation that healthy marriages should be living testimonies that reveal his nature and heart. Healthy marriages are God's gift to humankind and a means of his grace. Marriage should constitute a life long loving relationship and covenant (promise) between one man as husband and one women as wife.

Jesus said:

"Have you not read that at the beginning the Creator made them male and female, and said, 'For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and the two will become one flesh'? So they are no longer two, but one. Therefore, what God has joined together, let no one separate."

Matthew 19: 4-6; Mark 10: 7-9

Marriage is an intimate connection and covenant on three levels; emotional, spiritual and physical. And each is of equal importance to sustaining a healthy marriage.

THE WEDDING CEREMONY

A wedding has many different layers of meaning, but it is first and foremost an act of worship wherein a couple offer themselves to each other and to God for the rest of their lives. The fact that the wedding is a worship service shapes the tone, content, music, vows, readings and those features that make your wedding so special and makes it uniquely your own.

The wedding ceremony generally follows the order provided by the Church of Scotland. Within this framework there is sufficient room for flexibility as regards special requests or considerations. In prior consultation with the minister most requests can be accommodated. Our greatest desire is to provide for you an experience that is meaningful and personal. We want your wedding to be a memorable moment in your lives.





BOOKING THE MARRIAGE DATE

Please contact the Minister Rev Drew Kuzma at Wardlaw Manse, Kirkhill IV5 7NZ.

Phone number 01463 831132 alternatively you can email akuzma@churchofscotland.org.uk. I will arrange to meet you and go over the booking form on page 5.

There will normally be a wedding rehearsal close to the wedding at a mutually agreed time. Everyone taking an active part in the service should come if at all possible. Couples should bring with them the Marriage Schedule and the fees if applicable (see below). It is also a good idea to bring the Order of Service sheets.

If the wedding is cancelled or postponed or the date changed please let us know as soon as possible.

FEES

There is no fee for the use of the church but a suggested donation of £150 to the upkeep is most welcome! Also there is no fee for the minister's services. The standard fee for our organist (if you wish to engage her services) is £70.

USHERS

You should appoint your own ushers who are there to welcome your guests.

FLOWERS AND CANDLES

You should make your own arrangements to put flowers in the church and these can be placed anywhere you like as long as they don't get in the way of the ceremony or block views unnecessarily. If you would like to leave flowers in the church for the following Sunday service then please let us know. If you employ a florist then please ask them to get in touch with the minister to gain access to the church.

Candles can be used in the floral arrangements, or by themselves, but they must be placed in safety glass containers. No candles can be lit when the Church is unattended. Please emphasise this to any florist that you engage.

PHOTOGRAPHS AND VIDEO

These are permitted during the service, or outdoors but please keep the minister informed of arrangements.



CAPACITY

Kiltarlity Parish Church can hold 250-300 people. Kirkhill Parish Church can hold about 130.

MUSIC

The minister can make arrangements for an organist to play at your marriage service. If you would like a friend or a member of your family to play for the service then please tell the minister when your marriage is being booked. Hymns and music should be chosen in consultation with the organist and minister before sheets are printed. We are also able to display the words of any hymns or songs on our screens and monitors. The minister can offer some guidance on hymns and songs if you wish.

CONFETTI

Biodegradable confetti can be used outside the Church only. Please make sure that your wedding guests are aware of this.

CHANGES

It really is essential to contact the Minister as soon as possible, if for whatever reason the wedding is cancelled, or the date is changed. Also please let us know if either of you change your address, or telephone number. This will enable us to be able to contact you, if necessary, at any time before the marriage.





APPROACHING YOUR SPECIAL DAY

There can be so many things to think about as you get ready for your wedding day, but we would encourage you to take some time to prepare emotionally and spiritually together.

You might also consider praying this simple prayer.

“Heavenly Father we thank you for your gift of marriage. We invite you to help us prepare for our new life together, trusting in your goodness and your good plans for us. Soften us, and guide us that we might make room for one-another, preferring each other and seeing the great things that you have placed in us. Help us to learn to fit well together, to become one, and enjoy the fullness of life that you have prepared for us. In Jesus name. Amen”

If you have any other questions or concerns on these or any other issues please feel free to contact me on 01463 831132 or email me at akuzma@churchofscotland.org.uk.

Yours in Jesus' love,

Rev Drew Kuzma,
Kiltarlity & Kirkhill Church



LEGAL PRELIMINARIES

1. Under the Marriage (Scotland) Act 1977 each party to an intended marriage is required to submit a completed form of notice (a 'marriage notice' Form M10) and the appropriate fee (currently £ 30 each) to the registrar for the district where the marriage is to take place. Then law requires that this done **NOT LATER THAN 29 DAYS BEFORE THE DATE OF MARRIAGE CEREMONY.**

Normally notices should be in the registrar's hands about **TEN to TWELVE** weeks beforehand. Each notice must be accompanied by documentary evidence, such as your birth certificate, of the information given in the notice. Personal attendance by both parties is desirable.

Inverness Registration Office opening hours: Mon-Fri 9.00 - 4.30 (Thurs 9.30 - 4.30) Mrs Diane Minty, Chief Registrar Registration Office, The Highland Archive and Registration Centre, Bught Road, Inverness IV3 5SS Tel: 01463 256400; inverness.registrars@highland.gov.uk

2. When the registrar is satisfied that there is no legal impediment to the marriage he/she will prepare and issue a Marriage Schedule in respect of the marriage. The Schedule will be issued to the parties, at least one of whom **MUST** attend personally at the registration office to receive it. The registrar cannot issue the Schedule more than seven days before the marriage and will advise you when to call to collect it. The Schedule cannot be collected on your behalf by a relative or friend – the registrar will issue it only to one of the parties to the marriage. It is the responsibility of the parties to produce the Marriage Schedule to the minister.

3. The Marriage Schedule **must be produced BEFORE the ceremony** to the minister who is to conduct the wedding. The Schedule is a most important document – **no Marriage can proceed without it.**

4. A marriage may be solemnised **only** on the date and at the place specified in the Marriage Schedule.

5. The Marriage Schedule is signed by the Bride and Groom, two witnesses and the minister.

6. The Marriage Schedule **MUST** be returned to the Registrar within three days of the marriage taking place. Entrust this task to a responsible person! A Marriage Certificate will then be issued by the Registrar. (Currently £ 10).