



Getting Married

**at Holy Trinity Church
Devonport**

**Information for
the Bride and Groom**



Above, view of Devonport from the harbour with Rangitoto Island in the background.

Below, view of Holy Trinity Church from Mt Victoria.



Devonport is a beautiful seaside suburb of Auckland, which affords a spectacular location for special events such as weddings.

Holy Trinity Church is situated at 20 Church Street, Devonport and is one of the most beautiful churches in Auckland. It is a popular venue for wedding ceremonies on account of its traditional architectural design and because the clergy make every effort to ensure that the wedding services held in this church are conducted in a meaningful and reverential manner.



It is gratifying for us to hear quite frequently how much those newly married enjoyed and appreciated their marriage service at Holy Trinity.

You are always most welcome to come along and 'sit in' on a marriage service to give you a first hand experience of how the weddings are conducted here.

The following pages outline some of the more important details which you will need to consider in the course of making your wedding arrangements, should you wish to get married in this church.

All arrangements relating to getting married in Holy Trinity Church need to be made with the Vicar. Phone 445-0378 and Email admin@holytrinity.gen.nz

HOW DO I MAKE A BOOKING?

Contact the Office, by email or by phone and check the availability for the date and time which you have in mind for your wedding. Your booking will be entered into the wedding book and then becomes definite. Should you wish to change the date or time, or even to cancel the booking altogether, or should your address or phone number change, please contact the office in the first instance. Phone: 09 445 0328
Email: admin@holytrinity.gen.nz

WHEN DO I ARRANGE A MEETING?

When you make a booking, you need to also arrange to meet the Vicar as soon as is convenient. At this meeting all the specifics of the Wedding Service will be discussed with you. You will also be informed of the date and time for two evenings of Wedding Preparation (where possible) and the date and time of your Wedding Rehearsal. You may elect to do your wedding prep classes within your own church or with your own marriage celebrant.

WHAT ARE THE WEDDING PREPARATION SESSIONS?

There are normally two pre-marriage sessions with the clergy together with other couples who are getting

married at Holy Trinity Church. Each of these lasts 1½ hours. Here we discuss informally (and with a lot of fun) some of the basic, important areas you will be facing in married life. While these evenings are not compulsory they do provide a great opportunity for couples to spend quality time together reflecting on married life and they give the clergy a chance to get to know you better.

WHEN IS THE WEDDING REHEARSAL?

Normally a wedding rehearsal will be arranged for the day before the wedding day. As many of the Bridal Party as possible should be present. Rehearsals take about 1 hour.

WHAT IS THE ORDER OF THE SERVICE?

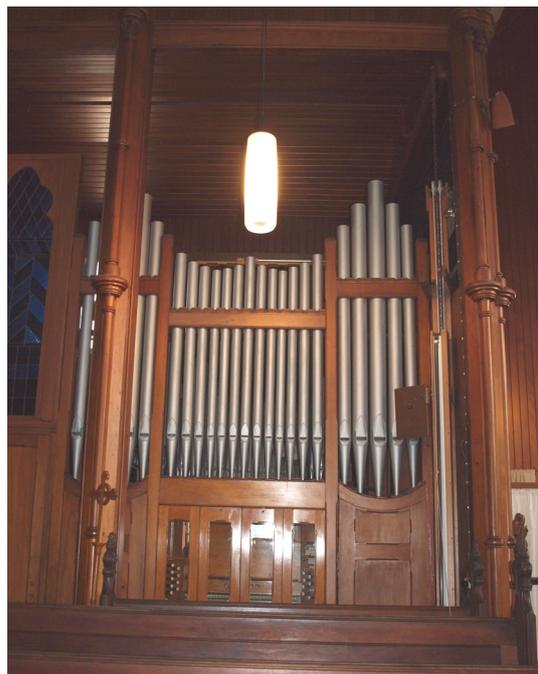
A copy of the order of service that is usually used can be found on this website. However there is some latitude to make minor adjustments to the service with the agreement of the Vicar.

The emphasis in the Marriage Service is on the nature of Christian Marriage and this is reflected in the wording of the Service.

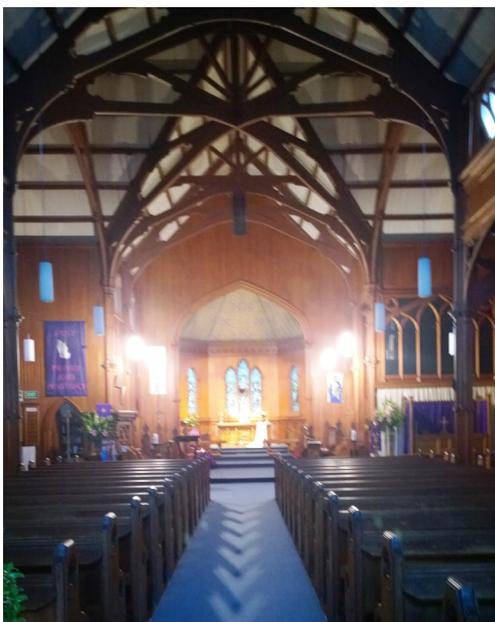
WHAT MUSIC IS PERMITTED?

The music you choose for your Wedding Day will have a major influence on the service itself. Hymns and sacred songs are optional. You will need to decide whether you wish to have any hymns or special musical items during the ceremony.

Holy Trinity Church has an excellent pipe organ and we have professional organists in the Parish who are available to play at your wedding. Their services include playing music as the guests are arriving before the wedding commences, playing as the bride arrives and as the wedding party leaves and if required, for any special items and hymns you may have chosen, during the ceremony. The Organist's fee, as approved by the Organist Association is \$120. Please seal this in an envelope marked *Organist* and give to the Vicar at the time of delivering the Marriage Licence.



The church also has an excellent new sound system which can accommodate recorded music and live music. There is a fee of \$150 for the services of our sound engineer. If you would also like your service live-streamed we can arrange this also. (\$150) All matters regarding your choice of music and hymns needs to be discussed with the Clergy and must be in keeping with the nature and dignity of the Service.



WILL THE CLERGY CONDUCT OUTSIDE WEDDINGS?

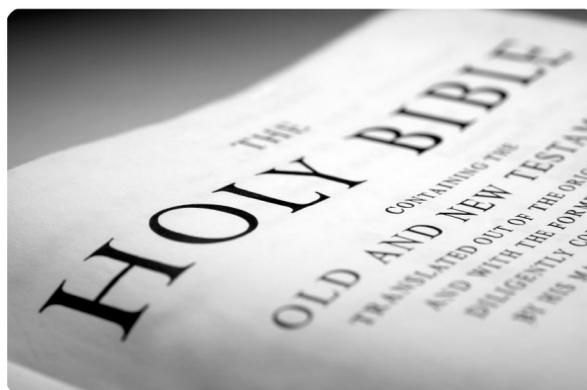
Anglican clergy are permitted to conduct weddings outside of the church buildings. While clergy are happy to accommodate such requests their preference is to conduct weddings in church.

Holy Trinity church is beautiful in its own right and it is fitting that a Service of Christian Marriage be held in the place associated with worship.

WHO ORGANISES THE FLOWERS FOR THE CHURCH?

The flowers in the Church are arranged free of charge by our ladies of the Sanctuary Guild who have had many years experience in suitable and appropriate floral decoration. Please place \$150 together with a note regarding your preferences for colours in an envelope marked *Flowers* and flowers will be purchased and placed in at least two floral arrangements in the church for your wedding day. It is assumed that the flowers will remain in the church following the wedding for the wider congregation's enjoyment at the Sunday services. If you would like to arrange your own flowers it is on the understanding that at least two bouquets will be left in the church for Sunday services.

We also provide a range of red, white or blue bows for the ends of the pews, free of charge.



WHAT READINGS ARE PERMITTED IN THE SERVICE?

A reading from a relevant section of the Bible on the nature of Christian love and marriage is normally part of the Marriage Service. You are free to choose your own reading from the Bible. The clergy are happy to help you make your selection. A popular choice is the one from 1 Corinthians 13 which outlines the nature of Christian love in action. Other appropriate readings from secular sources are also permitted in addition to the Bible reading.

WHAT IS THE SIGNIFICANCE OF A WEDDING CANDLE?

An additional touch to a Wedding Service is the lighting of a Wedding Candle symbolising the joining of two lives together. This is an optional addition to the wedding Ceremony and you are welcome to bring one if you wish.



CAN WE HAVE PHOTOGRAPHS AND A VIDEO DURING THE SERVICE?

Photography and videography of the service are permitted. However, the only photos to be taken during the Service are by arrangement between the Vicar and the official bridal photographer and videographer. There are restrictions on where they position themselves and these must be clarified with the clergy. No flood lights or 'sun-guns' are to be used in the church.

CAN WE HAVE A WEDDING IN YOUR CHURCH IF WE ARE DIVORCED?

The Anglican Church does allow the marriage of divorced people. It is however assumed that both partners of the intending marriage desire to abide by the life-long nature of Marriage.

DO YOU HAVE A SERVICE FOR BLESSING A WEDDING?

From time to time people who are already married wish to re-affirm their wedding vows in church in the presence of God. We are happy to facilitate such a ceremony and will provide a wedding blessing certificate to mark the occasion. This service follows very closely the structure of a normal wedding service, however the vows are said in such a way as to acknowledge that they are being re-affirmed.

WHO PROCURES THE MARRIAGE LICENCE?

The wedding couple is responsible for procuring a Marriage Licence.

Before a Marriage can be solemnised a Marriage Licence must be obtained from the Registrar of Marriages. The application can be made by either party.

The application form can be downloaded from the Government website. Go to www.bdm.govt.nz and select *Marriages*, where you can choose the applicable form for *Notice of Intended Marriage*.

There is a statutory delay of about 4 days between applying for and receiving the Licence. Once issued, the Licence is valid for 3 months. It is preferred that the Marriage Licence be delivered to the Vicar as soon as possible after it has been obtained.



CAN OTHER DENOMINATIONS USE THE CHURCH?

The clergy at Holy Trinity are more than happy to marry couples from other denominations.

Sometimes there is a request for couples to be married in the Church by their own Ministers or Pastors of other Christian denominations using their own orders of service.

This may be permitted at the discretion of the Vicar.

IS IT POSSIBLE TO HIRE THE HALL OR THE COURTYARD?

Parishioners who attend Holy Trinity regularly should talk to the Vicar if they wish to hire the hall or courtyard. There are a number of conditions which apply to the use of the hall or courtyard and these will be explained upon enquiry. (Fee \$250) (please note the hall and courtyard are out of commission until April 2023.)

ARE CONFETTI OR FLOWER PETALS PERMITTED?

Yes, confetti and natural flower petals and rice are all allowed, provided they are not dispersed inside the church. We would prefer, if confetti is to be used, that it is organic and is thrown when the Bridal couple have moved away from the immediate entrance area onto the lawn.

HOW MANY PEOPLE CAN THE CHURCH ACCOMMODATE?

Holy Trinity Church comfortably accommodates 250 people.

PARKING

While we have four off street parking spaces available, these are reserved for the bride and groom and for disabled parking only.

There is no off-street parking for wedding guests.



WHAT ARE THE EXPECTED DONATIONS / FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTIONS?

It is expected that couples who get married in Holy Trinity Church will make a financial contribution both for the use of the magnificent Church and facilities, and for the considerable time and expertise given in all the preparation involved in making this an extra special day.

Nearly eight hours of clergy time is given to each Wedding, which includes the initial meeting, two preparation evenings, a rehearsal and the Wedding Service.

How much does it cost to have a wedding in our beautiful Church of Holy Trinity, Devonport.
Around \$1200. This price affords you the use of our Church and a priest to take your service, an organist (if needed) sound engineer, live stream operator (if needed) , a pre wedding rehearsal, flowers in the church and pre wedding classes (optional).

This amount needs to be handed to the Vicar at the time of handing over the Marriage Licence no later than one week prior to the wedding day.

DO THE CELEBRANTS HAVE THE RIGHT OF REFUSAL?

The clergy are licensed marriage celebrants and as such are bound by the laws not only of the church, but also of Aotearoa New Zealand. They will therefore not perform a wedding service which violates either legal system.

Also, were a situation to arise where it would be out of keeping with the nature of Christian Marriage to proceed with either the arrangements or the Service itself, then the Vicar reserves the right to cancel the proceedings. Such drastic action would only be precipitated if either member of the bridal couple were under the influence of alcohol or drugs or acting in a way inappropriate to a Christian Service.



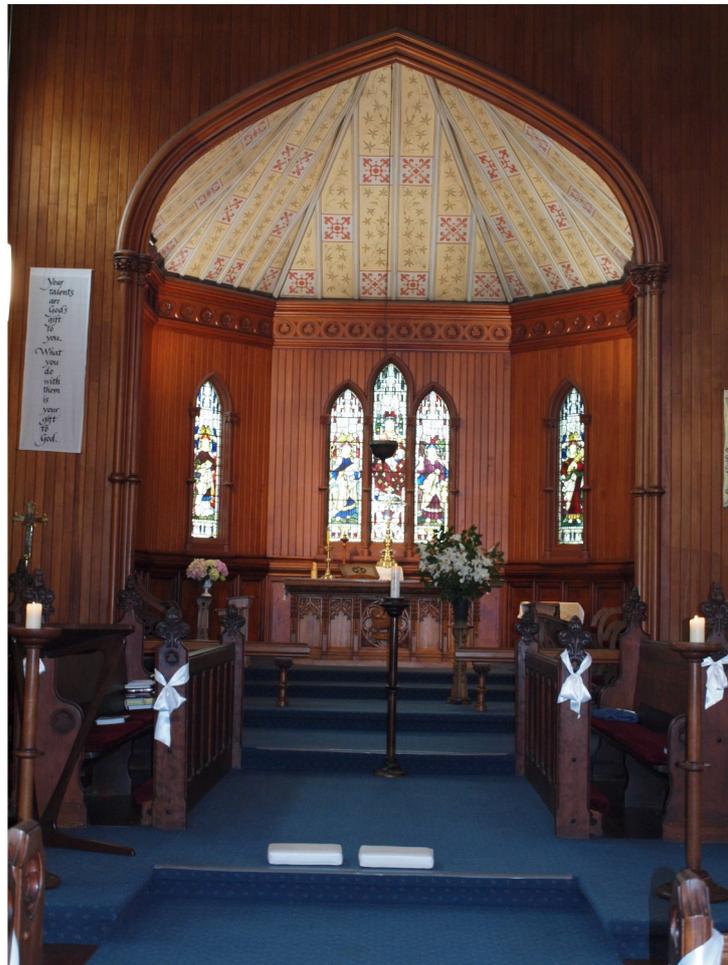
INTO THE FUTURE

BLESSING OF A HOME

There is something very special about the first home that a couple share as husband and wife. The Church recognises the importance of this and has a brief and appropriate service for the Blessing of a Home. Please feel free to ask the Vicar about this service.

BAPTISM (CHRISTENING) OF CHILDREN

Once a family begins to arrive it is natural to think in terms of their admission into the on-going life of the Church and the opportunity to give thanks to God for their safe arrival. The Anglican policy on where a child should be Baptised is that this should normally take place in the parish church where the parents are involved in its life, worship and witness. In this way the child is welcomed into the active life of the local Church where it will be growing up and becoming part of the normal life of that congregation.



CONCLUSION

As you take your vows in the presence of God, our intention is to do all we can to make your Wedding Day the happiest and most memorable occasion of your life. Our desire is to see not only the Bride and Groom adequately prepared and equipped for a lasting and enriching married life together, but also to create in the wedding service an atmosphere of warmth and friendliness when your friends and families will truly rejoice with you in the celebration of your marriage in a relaxed and joyful atmosphere.

Please don't hesitate to ask about any matter which you may not be sure of. We are here to help.

With every blessing for your arrangements and the future.

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Phone (649) 445 0328
Email: vadmin@holytrinity.gen.nz

Parish Web Site
www.holytrinity.gen.nz



Updated November 2022

Getting Married booklet/APN/Weddings

