

Marriages in Dunedin North Anglican Parish (draft policy)

The parish has three churches: St. Thomas's Pinehill, St Martin's North East Valley and All Saints' North Dunedin. All three churches are available for Christian weddings and relationship blessings conducted by parish clergy, Anglican clergy from outside the parish or clergy from other denominations.

1. Getting Married at All Saints' or St. Martin's with parish clergy

We are very glad to be able to join with you in the celebration of your marriage. We want you to have a wedding that is joyous and reflects the uniqueness of the hopes and dreams that you have for your marriage.

After meeting with Fr. Michael at All Saints' or Fr. Ivica at St. Martin's, the day and time for your wedding will be agreed, and it will be decided which of our clergy will officiate. If you are not certain about the time, it may be pencilled in until any other request for a wedding comes for that day. Then you will be asked to decide and given priority in doing so.

The Anglican Church has three contemporary forms of ceremony which can be mixed and matched, and personalised to a large extent. We will help you make choices so that your marriage celebration will be meaningful and flow well. We are very happy to conduct a celebration of the Eucharist in your wedding if you wish.

You must get a Marriage License and this should be brought to the wedding rehearsal. Usually couples have a rehearsal a day or so before their wedding. This enables everybody to be more relaxed and composed at the wedding itself. Ideally all members of the wedding party, readers, and others directly involved, will attend.

It is an Anglican requirement that at least one of you be baptised. Should either of you wish to be baptised, you are invited to ask Fr. Michael or Fr. Ivica about that.

Music

Good music enriches a wedding service. All Saints' and St Martin's have fine pipe organs. We can help you to choose suitable music from a wide repertoire. There are also sound systems and CD players which can be used, though it is our experience that live sound works best. The organist is able to work with vocal or instrumental soloists if required. We recommend that you attend the 10.30am Mass at All Saints' or 10.45 Eucharist at St. Martin's one Sunday to hear and see how the church works. This can be an opportunity to discuss music with the organist.

Flowers

The Parish provides flowers for the church's worship each week, except during the seasons of Lent and Advent. You are welcome to use these arrangements, (which are provided and arranged by volunteers on our flower roster), at no charge. Please inform the parish office at least three weeks before your wedding if you wish to use our flowers. You may wish to supplement these with personal touches that you provide (e.g. posies on the ends of the pews.) These will need to be removed after the ceremony.

Alternatively, you may wish to provide your own flower arrangements which you will need to do in any case if you are getting married during Lent or Advent and wish to use flowers. These will need to be removed after the ceremony.

Fees:

Organist \$100, Church \$400

The Church fee includes the services of the vergier who will assist with your service. You will be invoiced for the Church Fee, and if applicable, the Organist's Fee, about three weeks before the Wedding, and this should be paid a week before the wedding. Cheques should be made out to Dunedin North Parish or you may wish to do a direct deposit into the Parish account 06 0901 0015680 06 (including your name and the word "Wedding" in the details).

We wouldn't want finance to preclude a couple from getting married at All Saints' or St. Martin's and we are prepared to make allowances where couples need to keep the total cost of their wedding to a minimum.

You may wish to consider using All Saints' Parish Hall for your reception. Bookings for the hall are made via the parish office. Ph 479 2212. Please note that food and drinks may be served in the hall and/or the grounds around the Church but may not be brought into the church.

Preparation for Marriage

The priest, as well as wanting you to have a wonderful wedding day is required by the Church to prepare you for the relationship of marriage. We will discuss issues with you such as handling conflict, money, sexuality, communication, children, role expectations, and in-laws as we come to know you and understand the aspirations you have for your marriage.

2. Getting Married at All Saints or St. Martin's with an Anglican priest from outside the parish

We are very glad you are considering getting married at All Saints' or St Martin's. We want you to have a wedding that is joyous and reflects the uniqueness of the hopes and dreams that you have for your marriage.

St Martins' and All Saints' are open to couples who wish to have a Christian wedding and use clergy from another church as their celebrant. Of course we welcome any other licensed Anglican Bishops and Priests.

It is the responsibility of your priest to prepare you for the relationship of marriage and plan the marriage service.

We ask you to respect the sacredness of St. Martin's and All Saints' and the general tenor of the following statement from the Church as you do this. "Marriage is a gift from God our Creator, whose intention is that husband and wife should be united in heart, body and mind. In their union they fulfil their life for each other. Marriage is given to provide the stability necessary for family life, so that children may be cared for lovingly and grow to full maturity. Marriage is a way of life to be upheld and honoured. No one should enter into it lightly. It involves a serious and lifelong commitment to each other's good in a union of strength, sympathy and delight."

Anglican clergy are expected to follow the provisions of the Marriage Canon and the Vestry requires that appropriate vestments be worn. We ask that you show this policy to your celebrant.

We will have an initial meeting with you to agree the day and time for your wedding, who will officiate, and your general intentions. If you are not certain about the time, it may be pencilled in until any other request for a wedding comes for that day. Then you will be asked to decide and given priority in doing so. The payment of a deposit of \$100 will secure your booking.

Music

Good music enriches a wedding service. All Saints' and St Martin's have fine pipe organs. We can help you to choose suitable music from a wide repertoire. There are also sound systems and CD players which can be used, though it is our experience that live sound works best. The organist is able to work with vocal or instrumental soloists if required. We recommend that you attend the 10.30am Mass at All Saints' or 10.45 Eucharist at St. Martin's one Sunday to hear and see how the church works. This can be an opportunity to discuss music with the organist.

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Fees:

Organist \$100, Church \$450

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3. Getting Married at All Saints' or St Martin's with a non-Anglican celebrant

We are very glad you are considering getting married at St Martin's or All Saints'. We want you to have a wedding that is joyous and reflects the uniqueness of the hopes and dreams that you have for your marriage.

St Martin's and All Saints' doors are open to couples who wish to have a Christian wedding and use a minister from another Church as their celebrant. Such celebrants need to be licensed through their own denomination and the state as a marriage celebrant. We ask that you show this policy to your minister.

It is the responsibility of this minister to prepare you for the relationship of marriage and plan the marriage service. We ask you to respect the sacredness of St Martin's and All Saints' as sacred places and the general tenor of the following statement from the Anglican Church as you do this. "Marriage is a gift from God our Creator, whose intention is that husband and wife should be united in heart, body and mind. In their union they fulfil their life for each other. Marriage is given to provide the stability necessary for family life, so that children may be cared for lovingly and grow to full maturity. Marriage is a way of life to be upheld and honoured. No one should enter into it lightly. It involves a serious and lifelong commitment to each other's good in a union of strength, sympathy and delight."

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Fees:

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4. Same sex blessings at All Saints' and St. Martin's

Blessings of same-sex relationships are offered in line with Diocesan Policy and with the bishop's permission. Suggested fees and policies are the same as for marriages.