

### **Photography and filming**

Both are permitted so long as they do not distract from the ceremony. Some couples ask that only the official photographer takes photos of the wedding service.

### **Confetti**

Confetti is welcome here. It is a great occasion for a celebration! Please ensure that Biodegradable (Natural petals) confetti only is thrown outside the church.

### **Contact details**

Phone: 0121 354 1211

Email: [holytrinity.suttoncoldfield@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:holytrinity.suttoncoldfield@rcaob.org.uk)

Holy Trinity Catholic Church

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Sutton Coldfield

B74 2NU

Fr Michael Ho ([michaelho@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:michaelho@tiscali.co.uk))

Fr Ryan Service ([fr.ryan.service@rcab.org.uk](mailto:fr.ryan.service@rcab.org.uk))

Updated August 2024

# **YOUR WEDDING AT**

## **HOLY TRINITY**

**and**

## **SACRED HEART**

# **CATHOLIC CHURCH**



The family of Holy Trinity and Sacred Heart, Sutton Coldfield are delighted that you wish to celebrate your marriage here, and we will give you all the help you will need to ensure that you are fully prepared for the celebration and beyond.

Preparing for marriage is a wonderful opportunity to get to know one another even better and also to renew an understanding of the meaning of life within a Christian context. This leaflet will, hopefully, answer some of the questions you may have.

**Thank you** for considering the call to the vocation of marriage. It is really encouraging that you taking this step together. We will help guide you through your discernment and preparation for the Sacrament of Marriage. This leaflet offers a general overview of important information. The first thing to do is to make contact directly with the parish on **0121 354 1211** to check that a wedding is possible and to confirm the church and minister availability.

### **How do we prepare to get married?**

Please ensure that you contact the parish at least one year (and no later than 6 months) ahead of your proposed wedding day in order to reserve the date and to allow time for us to take you through the necessary preparation.

After your initial contact, you will have a meeting with either Fr Michael, Fr Ryan, Deacon Daniel or Deacon Owen who will explain the procedure that follows to help you to prepare for your marriage.

Over the coming months you will have a number of meetings with the minister, to complete all the necessary church and legal formalities, and also so that you can get to know each other before the service.

### **Other Preparation**

Within our parishes we organise a marriage preparation day which is usually on a Saturday where other engaged couples will be gathered. This is an informal meeting with married couples to look at married life together and it involves a lunch and social time. Couples are encouraged to attend the marriage preparation day.

If you do not normally attend Sunday Mass at the moment, we would like to suggest that you think about beginning to come. As well as being a highly enjoyable family and social occasion, a wedding in Church has the special aspect of making your commitment to one another in the presence of God, and so it is an important spiritual moment.

Sunday Masses at Holy Trinity are:

Saturday nights at 6pm

Sundays 9am, 11am, and 6pm

Sacred Heart Sunday Mass is at 10am

Finally, there will be a rehearsal near to the Wedding Day itself. It usually takes place the evening before the wedding day.

### **Marriage Certificates**

It is essential that you make an appointment at the Register Office where you reside in order to register your intention of marriage. This is possible from up to one year before your wedding date (and no later than one month before the wedding date).

Following your interview, you will receive what's called a marriage schedule document. The cost for this is approximately £35 per person. Without this document, the marriage cannot take place. Please bring the wedding schedule document to the parish office where it will be kept securely for the wedding day itself.

After the wedding you'll be able to apply to your local register office for a copy of your marriage certificate. Again, this will involve a cost from them.

### **Witnesses**

Two witnesses are required for the Registration of the Marriage.

### **How much does it cost to get married?**

Although some families spend a great deal of money, a wedding does not have to be expensive. In addition to the fee for flowers (in discussion with the flower team here) and an organist (£100), the wedding registrar fee in our church is £400.

Payment is required before the rehearsal date.

Please inform the clergy in cases of financial difficulty as all circumstances are taken into account.

### **How do we organise flowers for the wedding?**

For most of the year, there are flowers in Church for weekends. If, however, you would like a more specific display, such as a particular colour scheme, you can arrange this yourself or speak with our parish florists. There is a donation required for the church flowers. If you use a commercial florist to arrange the flowers you should still contact Maureen K. first for guidelines

For more information, please contact Maureen (0121 241 3424).

Please let us know if you intend to take your flowers away after the ceremony, to ensure that we still have flowers in church for our weekend Masses.

### **What do we do about music on the day?**

You will probably require an organist to play at your wedding. The parish has a number of organists available; please let the minister know at your meetings if you'd like an organist to be arranged for the day so that as much notice can be given as possible. The organist fee is £100.

We also have a Bluetooth system if you would like to play recorded music. Please note that someone will have to manage the system on the day for this to happen, so have someone in mind from the wedding party.

### **How do we organise the service?**

Eventually you will have to decide whether or not to have your wedding during Mass (Nuptial Mass) or Wedding Service. Discuss this with the Priest or Deacon. We would encourage you to choose the music, Scripture Readings and various other options, so that it is very much *your* Wedding.

It would also be good to compose your own "bidding prayers" for the wedding. You can choose members of your family or friends to read the Scripture readings and bidding prayers. A Catholic priest or deacon will read the Gospel.

### **Live streaming and recordings**

In our parish of Holy Trinity we are fortunate to have a live streaming facility. This is available for the wedding so that people who cannot physically be at the ceremony can join in from elsewhere. We also have the possibility of recording the wedding, but please inform us if you would like to have it recorded. This is at no cost to the couple.

To see what the image will look like on screen, please visit our homepage:

<https://www.htrc.org.uk/>

In accordance with GDPR guidance, if you do not consent to the use of Livestreaming then please also inform the minister in advance so that the facility can be switched off for the duration of the service.