

## The Sacrament of Marriage

Love is patient, Love is kind.  
Love does not insist on its own way.  
Love bears all things, believes all  
things, endures all things.  
Love Never Fails

1 Corinthians 13

Congratulations on planning to get married and celebrate this unique experience at St Brigid's. We would like to provide you with some information in your preparations for the sacrament of marriage.

Before you commence with any bookings you are encouraged to attend a marriage preparation program and these are available through:

Catholic Care, Details – [www.catholiccare.org/families/relationships/marriage-and-relationship-education-0](http://www.catholiccare.org/families/relationships/marriage-and-relationship-education-0)

Contact Number – 9509 5155

If you are a parishioner or have a connection with St Brigid's and would like Fr Phil Hicks msc to officiate your wedding, you will need to make an appointment to discuss his availability and prepare all documents.

Couples outside of parish boundaries are welcome to get married at St Brigid's however will need to organize their own priest and advise the parish once they have done so.

### Booking Procedures

Wedding are usually held on Saturday's, however should another day be desired this can be discussed with the Parish Secretary. Weddings are booked before 3pm to allow time for 5pm vigil mass on Saturday's. The cost of hiring the church for a wedding is \$600. The fee will need to be paid in full within 2 months of the initial booking, upon which a receipt will be issued. A further \$200 is payable to the officiating priest which covers administration cost, registration and the certification plus the time expend by the Priest.

Payment can be made by EFT – to St Brigid's Parish Coogee BSB 062-784 A/C 562 5001. When making the deposit please ensure you include the surname of either the bride or groom and the date of the wedding. You are welcome to pay the Priest's donation on the day of the wedding.

## **Documents & Paperwork**

Once you have made an appointment with your Priest you will both need to bring the following documents:

Birth Certificate/Current Passport

Baptismal Certificate. This certificate needs to be recently issued (approximately 6 months prior to your marriage). You can obtain a copy by contacting the church where you were baptised.

You will complete the following documents with the Priest

1. Notice of Intended Marriage (Commonwealth of Australia). This notice must be completed and signed between one and six months prior to the Marriage.
2. Pre-Nuptial Inquiry (Church). This document seeks information need by the church to be recorded for the marriage register and to be retained in the church office.
3. Dispensation Application (Church). If one either of the parties is baptised in a church other than the Catholic Church or has been not been baptised, this form needs to be completed.
4. Certificate of Marriage (Commonwealth of Australia). This document is forwarded to the Marriage registry office after your marriage. It contains a declaration, which must be signed by, state there is no legal impediment to the celebration of your intended marriage.
5. Marriage preparation course. There is much evidence today that couples benefit immensely from courses of formal marriage preparation. The Catholic Church sees that such courses of preparation as obligatory.

## **Marriage Ceremony**

The priest will assist you in planning your ceremony. You can choose to have a marriage ceremony or a nuptial mass. You will choose your own scriptures and readings, prayers, vows and blessing to make the ceremony uniquely your own.

A wedding rehearsal is encouraged a few days before the actual wedding.

Photography: Photographs of your wedding are wonderful to have and are encouraged. The photographer you have selected for your wedding should take photos discreetly and without intrusion in the main body of the church. No equipment or cameras are permitted on the altar.

Flowers: By your own arrangement. It is customary to leave at least one flower arrangement in the church after the wedding to share with the parishioners at the weekend masses.

Organist/Singers: By your own arrangement.

Confetti is not permitted however rose petals are acceptable outside the church building.

Your marriage is a special and joyful celebration event in a couple's life. Let the preparation be exciting and wonderful for you, please feel free to ask the Parish Secretary if you have any queries on 9315 7562.

