

*Thank you for booking your wedding at St Patrick's Church Hill.
To assist you, below is a guide on the Catholic Archdiocese requirements and
parish arrangements for your wedding*

CHURCH REQUIREMENTS:

1. BAPTISM CERTIFICATES

If both parties are baptized they will both require a Baptism Certificate. Catholics must apply for a newly-issued Baptism Certificate from their Parish of Baptism. For a wedding to proceed at St. Patrick's at least one of the parties must be a baptized Catholic.

2. PRE-NUPTIAL ENQUIRY FORM

This will be filled in with the priest who is preparing the couple for their marriage.

3. APPLICATION FOR A DISPENSATION

This will be required when one of the parties is not a Catholic. The priest preparing the couple for their wedding will prepare and handle the necessary application.

4. MARRIAGE PREPARATION PROGRAMME

The Catholic Bishops are most insistent on the need for suitable preparation before marriage'. Very suitable programmes are run by Catholic Care
<https://www.catholiccare.org/families/relationships/marriage-and-relationship-education-0>.
The priest helping the couple plan their wedding will provide information about these.

5. COUPLES LIVING OVERSEAS

Couples living overseas who are booking a wedding at St. Patrick's will need to refer to the special section on our website, <http://stpatschurchhill.org/information-for-couples-living-overseas-who-wish-to-be-married-at-st-patricks/> for guidance on how to accomplish the church requirements. As timing is crucial a couple should anticipate at least six months to complete the documents to be in order.

PARISH ARRANGEMENTS:

1. PLANNING YOUR CEREMONY

The officiating priest will help you plan your marriage ceremony around the particular readings and forms of the prayers you choose. You will also need to decide with him whether to have your wedding ceremony with or without a Mass.

2. REHEARSAL

During the week before the marriage ceremony it is advisable to bring the wedding party to the church and rehearse the ceremony with the priest. The church will need to be booked for this.

3. FLOWERS

Flowers for the church are the responsibility of the wedding party for both St Patrick's and St Brigid's church. Only two floral arrangements are permitted in the sanctuary. If pew bows are to be used, they must be secured by ribbons. No coated wire, tacks, staples or tape of any kind may be used. The flowers and pew bows should be removed right after the ceremony by the wedding party. Your florist is not allowed to arrange flowers for the wedding in the church premise, specifically in the church Sacristy. Florist could deliver and set-up the actual arrangements 30 minutes prior to the wedding ceremony. You may contact **Di Hoskins (H) 9428 3884** should you wish to organise flowers for your church ceremony.

4. MUSIC

You can arrange for a church organists to play at your wedding. Please contact either: **Godielieve Ghavalas (m) 0404 837 363** or **Ken Martin (h) 9525 1000 (m) 0418 868 484** who can also suggest a soloist. Payment should be made in advance to the organist. Both St Patrick's and St Brigid's are equipped with a PA system which could accommodate recorded music on any digital device. Other arrangements regarding music for your marriage ceremony can be discussed with the priest preparing the ceremony with you.

5. PHOTOGRAPHS AND VIDEOS

You are welcome to have photos and videos taken during the ceremony. Photographers should be discreet and speak to the celebrant before the ceremony.

6. CONFETTI

We regret that it is not possible to allow confetti, rice or rose petals in the church or in the church courtyard.

Why is this?

- a. All our exterior surfaces are asphalt. Anything thrown on it has to be cleaned up by someone.
- b. Confetti, rice or rose petals thrown outside will be tramped back into the church and will stain and damage our carpet.
- c. Council regulations prohibit these items being thrown in the street.