

Getting Married



Holy Trinity
Devonport



Information for
the Bride and Groom



Above: Aerial view of Devonport 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.



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 our church.

All arrangements relating to getting married at Holy Trinity can be made with the Vicar, Rev'd Chris Murphy.

Phone 445-0378

Email vicar@holytrinity.gen.nz

20 Church Street, Devonport, Auckland 0624

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. Once you have paid a deposit your booking will be entered into the wedding diary and then becomes definite.

Should you wish to change the date or time, update your contact details or to cancel the booking altogether, please contact the office in the first instance.

Phone: 09 445 0378

Email: operations@htdevonport.org.nz

When do I Arrange a Meeting?

When you make a booking, you also need to arrange to meet the Vicar. At this meeting all the specifics of the Wedding Service will be discussed with you. You will discuss Marriage Preparation and the date and time of your wedding rehearsal. You may elect to do your wedding preparation with your own church or with your own marriage officiant.

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. 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 night before the wedding day. As few people as possible should be present. It is most helpful to have only the bride, groom, best man, father-of-the-bridge, and bridesmaids. Rehearsals take about 1 hour.

What is the Order of the Service?

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

When you meet with the Vicar, he will share with you a copy of the service including the vows you will make.

If you are using your own Pastor, you will agree the wording with them.



What music is permitted?

Hymns or songs are optional but it is typical to have one to open the service and one to close. You will need to decide whether you wish to have any hymns or other musical items.

Holy Trinity Church has an excellent pipe organ and a keyboard available for playing.

Since the pipe organ is very expensive and relatively old, only those who have trained on it can play it. If you would like the organ played, please talk to us to see if we can arrange an organist.



The church also has a sound system which can accommodate recorded music and live music. Please discuss your needs with the operations team.

All musical choices will need to be discussed with the clergy.

Who organises the flowers?

It is up to you to arrange your own flowers.

What readings can I have?

A Bible reading is an essential part of a Christian Marriage Service. You are free to choose your own Bible, and the clergy can help you choose if you need some advice.. Other appropriate readings from secular sources are also permitted if the Clergy agree..

Can we have photographs taken during the service?

Photography and videography is allowed. The photographer/videographer should talk to the clergy before the service to check what photos can be taken and at what points during the service. There are some restrictions on where they position themselves. No flood lights or 'sun-guns' are to be used in the church.

Can we get married if we are divorced?

The Anglican Church does permit the marriage of divorced people, but if you are in this position please let the clergy know.

Can we have a wedding blessing?

From time to time people who are already married wish to re-affirm their wedding vows in church. We are happy to facilitate a blessing and will provide a certificate to mark the occasion. This service follows very closely the structure of a 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. The Marriage Licence needs to be delivered/emailed to the office as soon as possible after it has been obtained and certainly by the week before the service is due to take place.



Can other Christian denominations use the Church?

The clergy at Holy Trinity are more than

happy to marry couples from other Christian denominations.

Sometimes there is a request for couples to be married at Holy Trinity by their own Minister or Pastor using their own orders of service. This may be permitted at the discretion of the Vicar.

Can we throw confetti or flower petals?

Yes, confetti and natural flower petals and rice are all allowed. There is a cleaning charge for all wedding bookings.



How many people can the Church hold?

The church can comfortably seat 250 people.

Is there any car parking?

There are four off street parking spaces available. These are reserved for the bride and groom and for disabled parking. There is no other on-site parking. Please do not park on the Vicar's drive. There is, however, plenty of on-street parking for wedding guests.

How much does it cost?

Every wedding is different and given the number of variables it is impossible to give an exact the price. The best thing to do is to discuss your needs with the operations team and they will be able to create a bespoke package that suits your needs.

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.

Conclusion

As you take your vows in the presence of God, our intention is to do all we can to make your Wedding Day as special as possible. 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 .

Please don't hesitate to ask about any matter about which you may unsure. We are here to help.

Updated December 2024

