

Your Marriage at St. Patrick's Church

Marriage as Sacrament

Sacraments are signs of things too hard to describe or understand with just words. The Church believes that marriage is a sacrament, or sign, of God's love for all of us. God loves each of us, as spouses love each other, and is committed to us, no matter what, forever. We in the Church take marriage very seriously. Therefore, we are careful to give as much pastoral support to the couple before and after the wedding as is possible. Members of the counseling team are required to meet with the couple from 2-3 times to affirm that the couple understands that marriage is a lifelong union of sexual fidelity between two people and that the couple intends to do all in their power to sustain and honor such a holy union. We use this definition:

*Marriage is a sacred covenant,
in which two people enter into life-long union,
make vows before God and the Church,
and receive the grace and blessing of God to help them fulfill their vows.*

We are also required to determine that at least one of the marrying persons is a baptized Christian.

Marriage Involving Prior Divorce

When one or both members of the couple have been divorced our clergy are required by our bishop to explore issues concerning former marriages and to submit an application seeking the bishop's permission to proceed.

This process takes at least 60 days and requires that we:

- See evidence of the divorce (obtain a copy of the decree);
- Determine the well-being of the former spouse and children;
- Explore what led to the failure of the marriages and in light of that, how does the couple think this marriage will be different, making it likely to succeed.

In the case of this being the third marriage for either of the marrying persons, we must refer you, as a couple, to a licensed counselor, and attach a copy of his/her report to our application to the bishop.

Your Marriage License

The marriage license is to be obtained in the county in which you live.

*There is a three-day waiting period after application,
and the license is valid for 30 days after issuance.*

You will need to bring the license to the rehearsal. No wedding can be performed without a license.

The Wedding Rehearsal

You, with the clergy, should choose the date and time of your rehearsal as soon as possible.

Please encourage these persons to be here and to be on time:

- The entire wedding party;
- The parents of the bride and groom;
- Anyone reading scripture or other readings;

Wedding Coordinators are welcome; but should know ahead that they will work under the direction of the clergy.

The Wedding

Flowers

The decision to place flower arrangements at or near the altar is up to the wedding party. You may take the flowers with you or the flowers may remain in place for Sunday worship.

Photography

The employment of a photographer is the sole responsibility of the wedding party. FLASH photography is prohibited during the wedding ceremony but may be taken during the Procession and Recession of the wedding party. It is expected that before the wedding, the photographer will discuss with the clergy person, where and when photos may be taken.

Runners

These are discouraged because of their awkwardness for the wedding party in procession. If the wedding party wants one, they will need to arrange for it themselves. Our aisle length is approximately 50 feet.

Confetti, Rice, or Birdseed

For safety reasons, these are not allowed in the church or on the church property.

Fees

Wedding at St. Patrick's Church for parish members

Donation Appreciated

Members are those whose attendance and financial giving have been regular during the last year.

Wedding at St. Patrick's Church for non-members

This includes homily and service preparation, rehearsal, and wedding ceremony, counseling sessions altar guild setup, and administrative paperwork.

Due at first counseling session \$750.00

Hall Rental (if needed) by parish members only

Due at first counseling session \$50.00

Musician

..... Musician's Current Rate

Parish Sexton / Security Deposit

The deposit will be returned to the renter if the wedding is not cancelled and if the building does not need cleaning after the wedding. Due at first counseling session

\$100.00

Method of Payment

Due at the first counseling session

Reserving the church
and wedding preparation \$750.00 Non-members

Donation for wedding
preparation _____ Members

Reserving the hall (if needed) \$50.00 Members

Subtotal _____ Check payable to: *St. Patrick's Episcopal Church*

Sexton/Security Deposit 100.00 Separate check payable to: *St. Patrick's Episcopal Church*

Musician _____ Cash or check payable to: _____
Musician



St. Patrick's Episcopal Church
 1434 East Thirteen Mile Road
 Madison Heights, Michigan 48071
 (248) 585-9591 www.stpatsmh.org

NON-MEMBER CHURCH RENTAL CONTRACT (Wedding)
 (Additional contract required for Hall Rental)

Date of Wedding _____ Hours of Use _____

Date of Rehearsal _____ Hours of Use _____

Name of Renter _____

Address _____ City _____ Zip _____

Home Phone _____ Work/Cell Phone _____

1. The rental fee is \$750. This includes Church rental for the rehearsal and wedding service, altar guild setup, counseling sessions, service and homily preparation and administrative paperwork.
2. An additional \$100.00 refundable security deposit is due at the first counseling session.* Please write the rental and deposit as 2 checks payable to St. Patrick's Episcopal Church.
3. The renter is responsible for any damage to the building and equipment.
4. The renter is responsible for any personal injury.
5. NO HARD LIQUOR is allowed on the property at any time.
6. The church and rooms used for the wedding or wedding preparation must be returned to their original condition.
7. The renters must make arrangements for wedding preparation with the clergy of St. Patrick's .
8. The renter must make music arrangements with the approval of the clergy of St. Patrick's.
9. All décor brought in must be removed by renter after use.
10. Confetti, Rice, or Birdseed - For safety reasons, these are not allowed in the church or on the church property.
11. St Patrick's will not be held responsible for personal items left on the premises.
12. In case of emergency, use the phone in the kitchen to call 911. The church address and phone # are on the phone. Then call St. Patrick's wedding coordinator.

**Deposit check will be returned upon inspection of the church and if all contract terms have been met. If all contract terms are not met, you will forfeit all or a portion of your security deposit.*

I agree and will abide by all the above terms:

Signature of Renter _____ Date _____

Church Representative Signature _____ Date _____



St. Patrick's Episcopal Church
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Madison Heights, Michigan 48071
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MEMBER CHURCH RENTAL CONTRACT (Wedding)

Members are those whose attendance and financial giving have been regular during the last year.
 (Additional contract required for Hall Rental)

Date of Wedding _____ Hours of Use _____

Date of Rehearsal _____ Hours of Use _____

Name of Renter _____

Address _____ City _____ Zip _____

Home Phone _____ Work/Cell Phone _____

1. There is no rental fee for members however due to the number of hours of preparation involved for the rehearsal and wedding service, altar guild setup, counseling sessions, service and homily preparation and administrative paperwork, a donation is greatly appreciated.
2. A \$100.00 refundable security deposit is due at the first counseling session.*
Please write the deposit as a check payable to St. Patrick's Episcopal Church.
3. The renter is responsible for any damage to the building and equipment.
4. The renter is responsible for any personal injury.
5. NO HARD LIQUOR is allowed on the property at any time.
6. The church and rooms used for the wedding or wedding preparation must be returned to their original condition.
7. The renters must make arrangements for wedding preparation with the clergy of St. Patrick's.
8. The renter must make music arrangements with the approval of the clergy of St. Patrick's.
9. All décor brought in must be removed by renter after use.
10. Confetti, Rice, or Birdseed - For safety reasons, these are not allowed in the church or on the church property.
13. St Patrick's will not be held responsible for personal items left on the premises.
14. In case of emergency, use the phone in the kitchen to call 911. The church address and phone # are on the phone. Then call St. Patrick's wedding coordinator.

**Deposit check will be returned upon inspection of the church and if all contract terms have been met.
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I agree and will abide by all the above terms:

Signature of Renter _____ Date _____

Church Representative Signature _____ Date _____



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MEMBER HALL RENTAL CONTRACT

Members are those whose attendance and financial giving have been regular during the last year.

Date of Rental _____ Hours of Use _____

Name of Renter _____

Address _____ City _____ Zip _____

Home Phone _____ Work/Cell Phone _____

1. The rental fee is \$50 for the hall and a \$100.00 refundable cleaning/security deposit.*
2. Please write 2 checks payable to St. Patrick's Episcopal Church.
3. All groups must carry their own insurance.
4. The renter is responsible for any damage to the building and equipment.
5. The renter is responsible for any personal injury.
6. **NO HARD LIQUOR IS ALLOWED AT ANY TIME!** Beer and wine are allowed; however; sponsors of an activity are responsible for any person who may be impaired by alcohol. Safe transportation must be provided for anyone who's driving ability may be impaired.
7. The exhaust fan must be turned on when the oven or stove are in use. Switch is located on left side of hood. If fan is not turned on, the fire suppression system will automatically be triggered from the heat. **IF THE FIRE SUPPRESSION SYSTEM IS ACTIVATED, A FEE AT CURRENT COST (approximately \$350.00) TO RECHARGE THE SYSTEM WILL BE CHARGED TO THE RENTER.**
8. If used, kitchen utensils and equipment must be cleaned and put away.
9. All rooms used must be cleaned. (Trash taken outside to dumpster, floors swept, spills mopped, tables wiped, etc.) Rooms must be returned to original condition.
10. All food and décor brought in must be taken back by renter.
11. If decorating, use the tack strips only. No tape or tacks on the walls.
12. Hall, kitchen, and bathroom lights must be turned off.
13. Rental key must be returned to rental box and all doors locked when leaving.
14. St Patrick's will not be held responsible for personal items left on the premises.
15. In case of emergency, use the phone in the kitchen to call 911. The church address and phone # are on the phone. Then call St. Patrick's wedding coordinator.

**Deposit check will be returned upon inspection of the church and if all contract terms have been met.*

If all contract terms are not met, you will forfeit all or a portion of your security deposit

I agree and will abide by all the above terms:

Signature of Renter _____ Date _____

Church Representative Signature _____ Date _____