

Guidelines for Weddings at Saint Columb's Cathedral, Londonderry

Useful contact details:

Email address for The Dean of Derry – dean_derry@stcolumbs.net

Cathedral telephone number – 028 7126 7313

These guidelines are to help you as a couple plan your wedding ceremony at Saint Columb's Cathedral so that your plans will go smoothly on your wedding day and the start of your married life together.

It will help you –

Decide on a date and time for your wedding

Advise you about legal requirements

Applicable fees for the use of the Cathedral, Staff, Choir, Bells

Photographs and Video guidance

Use of confetti

Guidance regarding flowers

Mobile phones

G.D.P. R.

Date and time

Weddings are not usually solemnised in the Cathedral during Lent except under exceptional circumstances. The Dean will normally officiate at marriages, however should you wish a relative or a friend to perform the ceremony you should first seek the permission of the Dean.

To avoid disappointment when planning a wedding consult the Dean in the first instance to clarify if there are any prior bookings or services that have already been arranged for the date on which you would like to get married.

A meeting will be arranged with the bride and groom and the Dean to discuss arrangements.

Legal requirements

Applications must be made to the Registrar of Marriages at 14 Magazine Street, Londonderry, BT48 6HH, **no earlier than one year and no later than 4 weeks** before the wedding. The Schedule of Marriage must be given to the Officiant to be signed at the wedding. It is the responsibility of the bride and groom to ensure that it is returned to the Registrar's office within **three working days**.

Further information regarding civil requirements can be obtained from Derry City and Strabane District Council.

Opening times

Saint Columb's Cathedral is closed during the winter months and is open part-time from April to September. Access for flower arrangers should be arranged through the Dean.

On the day of the wedding the churchwardens will open the Cathedral 1½ hours before the ceremony. The Dean will arrange a suitable time to hold a rehearsal in the days before the wedding.

Fees

The fee for the use of the Cathedral for parishioners is £150.00.

For non-parishioners it is £400.00.

The Dean or other officiant - £150.00.

Church Staff - £50.00.

Organist / Assistant Organist - £150.00.

Cathedral Choristers - £20.00 each.

The Cathedral Girls' Choir - £20.00 each.

The Gentlemen of the Choir / The Cathedral Chamber Choir - £30.00 each.

Bells - £75.00.

Fees can be paid on the day of the rehearsal or on the day of the wedding.

Cash, in separate envelopes, is preferred for the various groups.

Music

The Organist or Assistant Organist will normally play for the Wedding Service.

If you wish another organist to play please obtain the permission of the Organist / Assistant Organist and the Dean.

For extra music, e.g. recordings and music groups, with the use of the Cathedral organ please obtain the permission of the Organist / Assistant Organist and the Dean.

Orders of Service

The Cathedral Parish Office can design and print the Order of Service.

If you would like to avail of this facility please contact the Dean and a cost will be provided.

Photographs

During the solemnisation of the marriage we would ask that guests do not take photographs as this can be very disruptive for you.

Should you request a video recording of the ceremony the operator will be advised to consult the churchwardens before the ceremony regarding the positioning of cameras.

Confetti

We would prefer that confetti is not used due to the difficulties of clearing up afterwards.

Flowers

Flowers for the wedding are the responsibility of the wedding party.

It is customary to leave the flowers on the reredos at the Communion Table after the wedding. All other flowers can be taken to the reception.

Advice regarding arrangements and equipment is available and the Dean will give you the contact's name and telephone number.

At certain times the Cathedral may already be decorated, e.g. Christmas, Easter, Harvest, so please check before ordering arrangements from your florist.

Mobile phones

Please advise your guests that mobile phones should be switched to 'silent' during the ceremony.

GDPR

We would like to include in the Cathedral magazine, if you agree, the record of your marriage including your address. Otherwise we will only record your names and the area in which you live.

We agree that our names and addresses can be recorded in the Cathedral magazine.

Signed _____

Signed _____

We will endeavour to make your ceremony stress free and a very happy occasion.