

Corinda Graceville Catholic Parish

General Policy for Marriages

1. Spiritual Preparation

In our Catholic tradition marriage is not only a social occasion but also a deeply spiritual commitment of a couple to each other for life. It will be necessary to discuss with the Parish Priest who will be performing the marriage ceremony, what suitable marriage preparation course are available.

2. The Wedding Ceremony

In meetings with the Priest the couple will work through the options available for readings, prayers, intercessions and form of the marriage service. The Priest will also prepare the necessary legal and liturgical documentation with you. As several months' notice is a requirement in these matters you should seek the earliest possible appointment with your Priest.

3. The Use of Our Churches

Our parish has two churches: St Joseph's, 686 Oxley Rd Corinda, and Christ the King, Churchill Street Graceville. Bookings are essential. If you want to celebrate your wedding on a particular date and time when our churches are available but if our Parish Priest is not available, it may be necessary for you to arrange for your own Priest for the ceremony.

4. Church Decorations

Our wish is to make your wedding day memorable and we will discuss with you your requirements for decorations for the church for the wedding liturgy. It should be remembered that weddings take place within the rhythm of the church's liturgical year and, therefore, a bride and groom should be sensitive to the requirements of the general church decorations for the Sunday Masses at particular times of the year. These church decorations may be in place in the church at the time of your wedding.

5. Wedding Fees

The parish has a fee of \$300 for parishioners and \$400 for non-parishioners. This fee does not include charges related to musicians or flowers. To secure your booking of the church it will be necessary to forward a non-refundable deposit of \$50 together with the attached forms immediately. The balance is to be paid at least 6 weeks before your wedding. Our musicians can also assist at your wedding. You will need to discuss their fees with the individual artists.

Please note: If you have your own Celebrant, the fee for the use of the Church is \$200 for parishioners and \$350 for Non-parishioners. Stipend for the Celebrant is to be negotiable between you and your Celebrant.

6. Photographers and Video Cameras

In our Catholic tradition, a wedding is a religious event of great significance in the life of the couple. We therefore understand your need to capture the ceremony on cameras and/or video. However it is necessary to remind your photographers that they are not permitted on the alter during the ceremony itself. The Priest will pause at particular times to allow photos to be taken by your official photographer. This should be discussed with the Priest when you are planning your wedding liturgy.

7. Confetti, Rice

Under no circumstances should confetti, rice, flower petals or any other material be thrown within the church or the church grounds.

8. Musicians

We would prefer you to use our Parish musicians (Organist/Singer) when celebrating weddings in either of our churches. This will ensure a smooth celebration, given the 'local' knowledge of the organ and sound system.