



The Church of St Stephen Downsview

2259 Jane St, Toronto ON, M3M 1A6
(416) 241-4639
ststephendownsview@toronto.anglican.ca

Dear friends,

We wish to extend to you warm congratulations and our sincere prayers on your impending nuptials. This is a significant moment for you in which you are invited to contemplate this new way of life together in the community before God. An introduction to the marriage rite states:

"In marriage, husband and wife give themselves to one another, and they begin a new life together in the community. It is a way of life that all should reverence; and therefore it must not be entered into carelessly, selfishly, or wantonly, but responsibly, honestly, and after serious thought and prayer."

Your intention to be married within the church, and, in this case, the Church of St. Stephen, Downsview, is an indication that you recognize the importance of God's presence at the center of your union. Here at St. Stephen, you will find a loving Christian community willing to support and uphold you in your marriage. Therefore, we invite you to join our worshipping community as we learn together to love one another deeply even as God has loved us in Christ.

Please review the information below; we would be delighted to address any questions you may have. The completed registration form may be returned to the Parish Office at your earliest convenience, and we will be in contact with you to plan the next steps.

Peace and blessings,

Fr. Theadore Hunt,
Parish Priest



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MARRIAGE PREPARATION INFORMATION

BRIDEGROOM

Name in Full

Home Address

Postal Code Country

Telephone (Home) (Work)

Marital Status

Occupation

Place of Birth Date of Birth Citizenship

Father's Name in Full

Father's Place of Birth Citizenship

Mother's Name in Full

Mother's Place of Birth Citizenship

Baptized Confirmed

Connection to Parish

Email

BRIDE

Name in Full

Home Address

Postal Code Country

Telephone (Home) (Work)

Marital Status

Occupation

Place of Birth Date of Birth Citizenship

Father's Name in Full

Father's Place of Birth..... Citizenship

Mother's Name in Full

Mother's Place of Birth Citizenship

Baptized Confirmed

Connection to Parish

Email

SPECIAL NOTES

CEREMONY

Bride's Family Name
Groom's Family Name
Date and Time of Wedding
Date and Time of Rehearsal

Banns or Licence Probable Number of Guests

Form of Service Organist

Single or Double Ring Music Presentations

Maid of Honour Address

Best Man Address

Bridesmaids

Ushers

Ring Bearer Flower Girl

Readers Candlelighters

Escorting the Bride Other Functionaries

Flowers: Altar Church Candelabra Pews

Photographer VCR

People attending with disabilities

Out-of-towners:

Marriage Preparation: Course (or) Individual Sessions

Address after Marriage

Events after the service: Photos Reception Party Other:

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Further Information:

INFORMATION FOR WEDDINGS IN THE CHURCH

MARRIAGE

Clergy may only officiate at weddings in the Anglican Church of Canada or assist in weddings in other churches in accordance with the marriage discipline as outlined in Canon XXI "On Marriage in the Church". The form of solemnization of matrimony is intended to be used in marriage between persons who are baptized members of the Christian Church. If only one person is baptized, the matter must be referred to the area bishop for a decision.

NOTICE:

The couple is required to give the clergy a minimum of 60 days' notice of the proposed date for the wedding.

DATE:

The date and time of the Rehearsal and Marriage Service will be discussed at the time of the initial interview with the Clergy. A **\$75 non-refundable deposit** is required two (2) weeks following the initial meeting with the Clergy. This will serve as confirmation and agreement regarding the arrangements.

MARRIAGE PREPARATION:

The couple is strongly recommended to avail themselves of a recognised marriage preparation course. Marriage Prep by Humanicare Associates is highly recommended. The course currently offers two modes: i) a weekend seminar format, and ii) a ten-session online webinar format. They may be contacted at: 905-841-3173, or couples may register online to register at: <https://www.marriageprep.com/>. In addition to the marriage preparation course, each couple will have at least three follow-up preparation meetings with the Clergy.

CHURCH SERVICES:

Christian marriage is a public act and is most appropriately solemnized in the presence of the gathered Christian community, family and friends. It is therefore expected that couples will attend Church Services regularly and immerse themselves in the life and worship of the Christian community.

LICENCES AND BANNS:

All couples seeking marriage **MUST** either have the banns read, if appropriate, or obtain a proper marriage licence. If marriage is by banns, the banns **MUST** be read in the church(es) of the person(s) seeking marriage at least one month before the proposed date of the wedding. In all cases of marriage after divorce, a licence must be obtained.

It is recommended that **all marriages** take place by licence (rather than banns) even if banns are published as a courtesy. A license may be obtained from any Municipal Office up to three (3) months prior to the wedding. Couples are required to deliver the license to the Church's Office at least two (2) weeks prior to the date of the marriage.

REMARRIAGE OF DIVORCED PERSONS:

The remarriage of divorced persons is permitted within the Anglican Church. The divorced applicant(s) must present the clergy with a copy of the Decree Absolute or Divorce Certificate before it is used to apply for a marriage licence. The clergy must be assured that the causes which led to the breakdown of a previous marriage, as well as their responsibilities – financial or otherwise – regarding children of a previous marriage, are understood. The divorced applicant(s) will also be invited to sign a declaration of renewed intention in marriage.

FEES: (**waived for contributing members of St. Stephen)

\$50 Use of the church (per rehearsal)

**\$250 Use of the church for wedding ceremony:

**\$250 Fee for Officiant:

\$175 Stipend for Organist (if one is required)

____ \$50 Stipend for Custodian/Sexton: (preparation, access to the premises, parking, etc.)

\$775 Total

Notwithstanding the non-refundable \$75 deposit, all fees are due two (2) weeks prior to the wedding date; when the marriage licence is brought to the Church. Cheques should be made payable to: The Church of St. Stephen, Downsview. (**Please, NO cash**).

FLOWERS:

The Church's Altar Guild is available to assist in procurement and preparation of floral arrangements for the altar area only. The cost for this service is \$100. The couple may choose to make alternative arrangements for floral decorations, but in every instance, decorations must be coordinated in consultation with the Altar Guild. In either case, the flowers will remain on the altar for the next scheduled service of worship as a thank offering to God for the Sacrament of Holy Matrimony.

MUSIC:

The organist of the Church of St. Stephen plays for **ALL** weddings. All matters relating to music (soloists, instrumentalists, etc.), rehearsal date(s) and time(s) **MUST** be discussed and coordinated with the organist at least one (1) month prior to the wedding date. Please contact the Parish Administrator to arrange an appointment with the organist.

PHOTOGRAPHY AND VIDEOGRAPHY:

Marriage is a sacramental act of worship engaged within the context of a worship service. Therefore, it is appropriate that the use of Cameras (video and conventional) is at the discretion of the Clergy. The clergy must be informed of plans for photographs and video taping on or before the second interview. Where permitted, photographers and videographers **MUST MEET WITH THE CLERGY BEFORE THE CEREMONY** regarding specific instruction on location and movements during the service.

PUNCTUALITY: Couples are expected to be on **time for the Rehearsal and the Marriage**. A refundable late fee is included and payable according to the schedule of wedding fees. Where couples are late for the Rehearsal or the Marriage, 25% will be deducted from the late fee for every 15 minutes.

NO CONFETTI IN THE CHURCH

WEDDING DECLARATION

We hereby declare that we intend to enter into marriage which we acknowledge is a lifelong union in faithful love, and that marriage vows are a commitment to this union, for better or for worse, to the exclusion of all others on either side, until we are separated by death.

We undertake to prepare ourselves for the exchange of vows at our wedding, recognizing that by this mutual exchange our union in marriage will be established.

With God's help, we intend to strive thereafter to fulfill the purpose of marriage; the mutual fellowship, support and comfort of one another, the procreation (if it may be) and the nurture of children, and the creation of a relationship in which sexuality may serve personal fulfillment in a community of faithful love.