

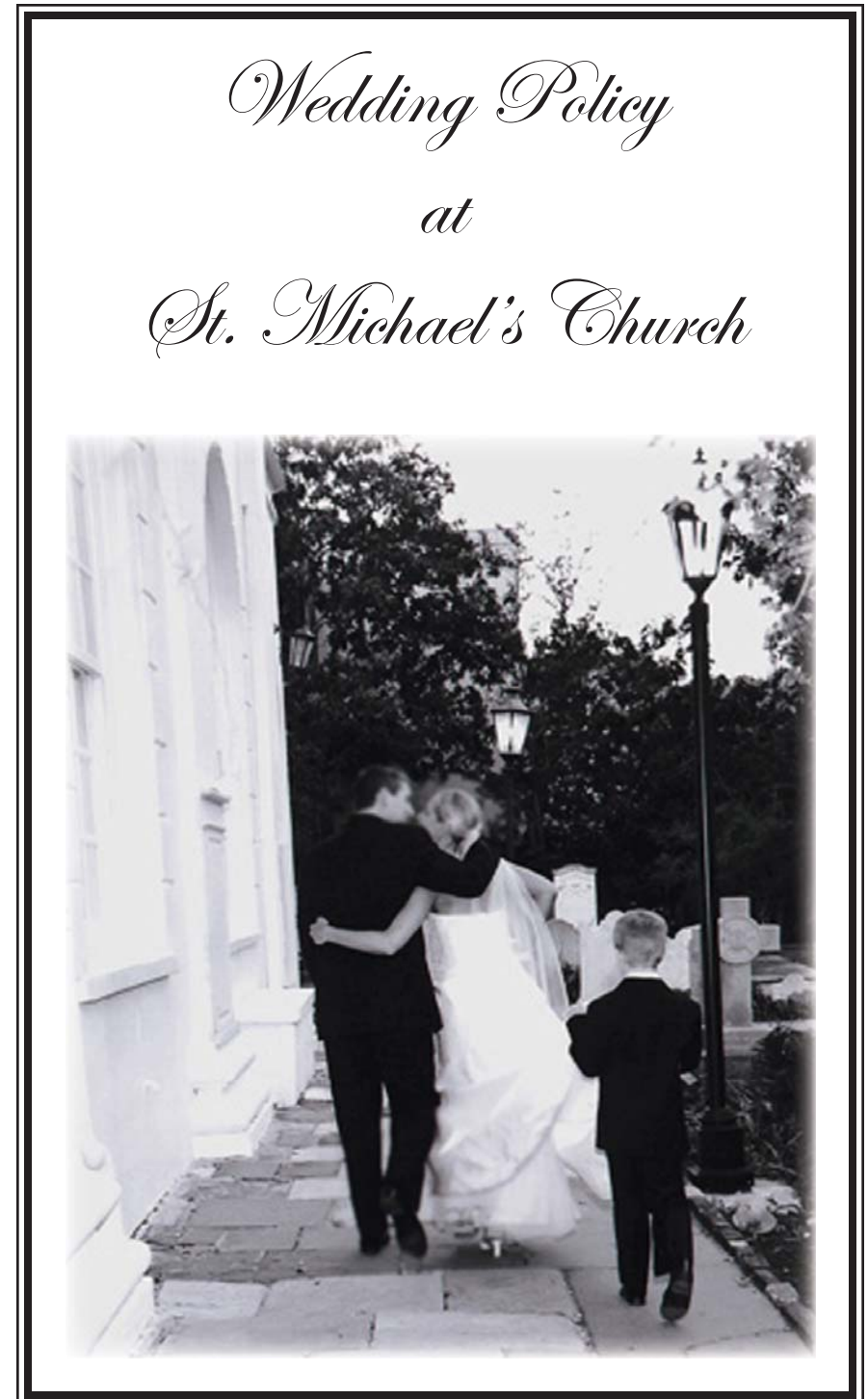
If using instrumentalist or soloists, separate checks are required for their payment. Their names will be provided by the Organist, and separate checks for these individuals should be sent with other fees.

Service Bulletin

If you choose to have your service bulletin printed by St. Michael's, you will need to meet with the Director of Communications to go over the bulletin and decide what information you will need to retrieve. The deadline for this meeting is two weeks prior to the wedding. The bulletin is a standard template for all weddings. It is black ink, 8.5" X 14", cream 60lb paper, double-sided, and folded in half. If you wish to outsource your bulletin to another printer, we will be happy to email a text file of what needs to be in the bulletin. Either way, the bulletin will need to be approved by the priest officiating the wedding before going to press. Also, if you produce your own bulletin, please make sure the following wording is included, "For the sake of reverence and because this is a worship service, no still photography with or without a flash is permitted."



St. Michael's Church
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Congratulations!

You are now embarking on the most magnificent journey of your earthly life. The Sacrament of marriage is a most powerful and life changing event. Not only is it an event, it is a brand new way of life! In the marriage service, we are reminded that the union of husband and wife in heart, body and mind is intended by God for their mutual joy; for the help and comfort given one another in prosperity and adversity; and, when it is God's will, for the procreation of children and their nurture in the knowledge and love of the Lord. Therefore, marriage is not to be entered into unadvisedly or lightly, but reverently, deliberately, and in accordance with the purposes for which it was instituted by God.

What is Marriage?

Holy Matrimony is that sacrament in which the woman and man enter into a life-long union, make their vows before God and the Church, and receive the grace and blessing of God to help them fulfill their vows.

Notice in the vows it doesn't say, *I take you to be my wife, to have and to hold...* It says, *In the Name of God, I take you to be my wife to have and to hold!*

Therefore, marriage is about making a vow to God, before you make a vow to your fiancée, which makes our pre-marital ministry so important in your walk to marriage..

So, What is Required of you?

As you read above, marriage is not to be entered into unadvisedly or lightly, but reverently, and deliberately. In fact, you will say these vows when you exchange rings, *I give you this ring as a symbol of my vow, and with all that I am, and all that I have, I honor you, in the Name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.*

So, the stakes in marriage are high. Your first step toward a St. Michael's wedding is to make an appointment with one of the priests of St. Michael's Church where we will discuss the pre-marital ministry. To do that, simply call Jeanine Branham and she will direct you. The Canons of the Episcopal Church require pre-marital instruction for couples to be married. Before making any wedding plans for a service in St. Michael's Church, the couple must have a preliminary interview with one of the parish clergy.

Can other clergy assist?

If the assistance of a minister other than a member of St. Michael's staff is desired, please inform the officiating priest during premarital instruction. Non-Episcopalian ministers and Episcopal clergy from outside the Diocese of South Carolina must receive approval from our bishop.

FEES

Payable to St. Michael's Church no later than two weeks prior to the wedding.

Inclusive Church Use Fee

Member \$1,200.00

Includes:

Organist/Choirmaster consultation	\$50.00
Organist at rehearsal and wedding	\$300.00
Bellringers for wedding	\$200.00
Sexton for rehearsal and wedding	\$100.00
Flowers	\$500.00
Service Bulletin (one page, 300 copies)	\$50.00

Non Member

\$2,700.00

Includes:

Church Use Fee	\$1000.00
Organist/Choirmaster consultation	\$50.00
Organist at rehearsal and wedding	\$300.00
Bellringers for wedding	\$200.00
Sexton for rehearsal and wedding	\$100.00
Flowers	\$500.00
Service Bulletin (one page, 300 copies)	\$50.00
Clergy Honorarium	\$500.00

Parish Hall Use Fee (optional)

Member	\$500.00
Non Member	\$1,000.00
Housekeeper	\$150
Sexton	\$150

Payable to Individuals

Clergy Honorarium	\$500.00
Vocal Soloist(s)	Starting at \$150.00
Instrumentalist(s)	Starting at \$75.00

Clergy Honorarium is traditionally the responsibility of the groom. It may be mailed with other payment for church fees prior to the wedding, or may be given to the officiating priest at the rehearsal. (Please note that it is included in the non-member fees.) Continued on back...

stand in the vestibule and take pictures as the bride and groom process out of the church. Videotaping from the gallery is permitted, provided the camera operator does not attempt to move about during the service. Please inform professional photographers of these policies, and advise family members not to take photos during the service. The wedding party may be posed in the church after the service.

MISCELLANEOUS

Dressing Room

Normally, members of the wedding party will find it more convenient to dress at home. If desired, different rooms can be provided for the female wedding party members in the Laura Hewitt Building and the male wedding party members in the Belser Building.

Alcoholic Beverages

Wine may be served during functions in the Kinloch Room. Mixed drinks with "hard liquor" are not allowed.

Holy Communion

May be celebrated as part of the wedding service. If Communion is desired, please discuss this with the officiating priest during premarital instruction. It is most appropriate for the whole congregation to receive Communion when the Eucharist is celebrated at a wedding.

No Rice, Birdseed, etc.

No items are to be thrown anywhere on the church property.

What if one of us has been previously married?

The Canons of the Episcopal Church make provision for marriage of divorced persons after counseling with the parish clergy and with the written consent of the bishop. In every case, a divorce must have been final for one year prior to application to the bishop. The minimum time required for counseling is 3 months. The bishop requires 30 days to consider the application. The Bishop will not consider an application for a third marriage involving two prior divorces. Holy Matrimony is understood by the Episcopal Church to be a lifelong union of husband and wife. The provision for remarriage after divorce is based on God's promise of grace and forgiveness to those whose sins are confessed and repented.

When can I set the date?

This initial meeting must take place before the wedding date is set. In some cases, after initial consultation with St. Michael's clergy, arrangements may be made for a couple residing out of state to receive counseling from clergy in the community where they live.

Can I write my own vows?

The marriage rite of Holy Matrimony is not only a witness to a covenant of life-long union of fidelity and love, but also God's benediction upon that covenant; therefore, the rite should be conducted in the church. Neither the priest nor the couple is free to alter the service beyond the permissible options as found within the Book of Common Prayer, which do not allow for writing one's own vows.

What about music?

Once pre-marital instruction has begun and a date set, contact St. Michael's Organist/Choir Director to plan music for the service. A sample CD is available, containing organ selections that can enhance your wedding service. It is entirely his prerogative to play for all weddings at St. Michael's, the fees from which are part of his normal compensation. The Organist/Choir Director should be consulted prior to any contact involving soloists or musicians who might be asked to participate. Vocal soloists and other musicians may participate under the direction of St. Michael's Organist, who will provide appropriate organ or congregational music and will advise the Rector as to the suitability of music suggested by the couple. The use of recorded music is not allowed. The Organist will arrange for Tower Bells to be rung if desired by the couple.



What are the legal requirements?

The South Carolina marriage license should be obtained from any state marriage license office well in advance of the proposed wedding. Couples must apply together. There is a 24 hour waiting period before the license may be picked up. Licenses must be obtained with adequate time for it to be brought to the wedding rehearsal. All three copies must be brought.

DECORATIONS

Hangings

The church provides white silk damask hangings on the altar, reading desk, pulpit, etc. for weddings. No other hangings may be used.

Flowers

Once a wedding date is set, please call the Parish Office (843-723-0603) to arrange a discussion with the chair of the St. Michael's Flower Guild. Flowers used on the altar and the center narthex will be ordered by, and may only be arranged by, a member of the Flower Committee. Only the two brass church vases may be used on the altar. Any other arrangements need to be approved with the chair and Clergy. One ribbon-type bouquet arrangement may be placed on pews to mark family seating areas.

Flowers used on the altar for weddings will normally be left in the church for the regular Sunday services. If you would like them taken after Sunday services to a relative or friend who is ill or confined at home, please contact the officiating priest. Wedding flowers may not be used to decorate a reception hall or home.



Candles

The two regular branched candelabra used behind the altar are the only ones used for weddings, unless there is to be a celebration of Holy Communion at the wedding in which case the Eucharistic altar candles are also used. No other candles may be used anywhere in the church.

Cushions

A needlepoint kneeling cushion will be provided for the bride and groom to kneel at the altar rail.

Aisle Cloth

If an aisle cloth is desired, make arrangements with your florist. Cloth should be a least 75 feet long, taped at the altar rail step, and arranged fold-on-fold or on a small roller. Note: Aisle cloths occasionally cause members of the wedding party to trip and are thus not recommended.

What's required to prepare for the actual service?

The officiating priest and the organist meet with the bride and groom and members of the wedding party for a rehearsal the evening prior to the wedding. The officiating priest will conduct the rehearsal and arrange placement of all participants. Do not employ a wedding director for this task. St. Michael's Wedding Guild members will provide all necessary assistance to the clergy for these and other tasks. They will also assist the wedding party as needed. Please bring the Marriage License to the rehearsal! Signing of the license and the parish register will take place then.

Before the rehearsal, determine where you would like family members and close friends to be seated. Also decide which family members (traditionally, mothers and grandmothers) will be escorted to their pews after the general seating ends and just before the procession begins. Assign a groomsman to escort each of the mothers and grandmothers in before the wedding and out at the conclusion of the service.

The use of very young children as flower girls or ring bearers often seems like a good idea, but frequently proves to be a problem, with children refusing to perform as required. Be sure the children you invite to participate are able to do their part.

What about photographs and photographers?

No still photography (with or without flash) is allowed inside the church once the wedding procession has begun. A photographer may