



*They are like trees planted by streams of water,
bearing fruit in due season, with leaves that do not wither;
everything they do shall prosper. [Psalm 1:3]*

Calvary Episcopal Church
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WEDDING PLANNING

May God the Father, God the Son, God the Holy Spirit, bless, preserve and keep you; the Lord mercifully with his favor look upon you, and fill you with all spiritual benediction and grace; that you may faithfully live together in this life, and in the age to come have life everlasting.

This booklet is intended to provide guidelines to planning your wedding service at Calvary. Please read it carefully and jot down any questions that you may have. Every wedding has its unique qualities so some flexibility can be negotiated. However, please consider these guidelines as part of your agreement for your wedding plans unless you make other specific arrangements with the Rector.

THE CELEBRATION AND BLESSING OF A MARRIAGE

The Book of Common Prayer provides the form for all weddings in the Episcopal Church. Holy Communion may be part of the wedding ceremony. Weddings may take place in the main church, St. Luke's Chapel, or at another location at the discretion of the Rector.

SETTING A DATE AND TIME

Dates on our calendar are established on a first come, first serve basis. The Rector is in charge of planning all services with the couple. Saturday weddings must be held no later than 1:30 p.m. or after 5:30 p.m. Other days of the week are possible after discussion with the Rector.

PRIOR MARRIAGE

If either party has been divorced previously, consent for the anticipated marriage must be obtained from the Bishop of WNY. The application for consent is made by the officiating priest. It is not a complicated or arduous process, but adequate time must be allowed.

PRE- MARITAL CONFERENCES

The Canon Law of the Episcopal Church prescribes that no marriage may be solemnized until the parties have received instruction. Appointments for pre-marital conferences are arranged by the officiating priest. At Calvary, there are usually 3 sessions of 1.5 to 2 hours each. See more on page 5.

REHEARSAL

After discussion with the bride and groom, the officiating priest sets the time of the rehearsal. Please allow approximately 1 hour. It is necessary that all members of the wedding party be present, including the person who will present the bride in marriage if there is to be a presentation, as well as readers and other participants.

MARRIAGE LICENSE

The New York State marriage license is given to the officiating priest at the rehearsal.

FLOWERS

Calvary's wedding fee includes two vases of flowers for the service. Because of the design of the altar and reredos, flowers are not placed on the altar; flowers are placed in silver vases on the small shelves on either side of the altar. If the ceremony is to be in the chapel, a single small arrangement will best fit the proportions of the room. For Friday or Saturday weddings, the flowers will be left at the church for the regular weekend services, and your special event will be acknowledged in the bulletins for those services.

PHOTOGRAPHS

Flash photographs may not be taken in the church during any part of the service, including the Prelude, as it disturbs the dignity and solemnity of the ceremony and disrupts the musicians. As the only exception, one professional photographer may take flash photos of the bridal party during the processional. S/he must be positioned in the back of the church in a pew with the flash pointing to the back of the church. The flash may not be pointed toward the front of the church at any time. The photographer should come to the church at least 45 minutes before the service to review the service with the officiating priest.

Official photographs may be taken in the church after the service; the clergy may pose in the church for photographs at their discretion. Videotaping of the wedding ceremony is permitted only if the videographer stands in one inconspicuous place throughout the entire ceremony.

MUSIC

The music is under direction of the Director of Music and the Rector. Additional musicians such as a soloist, instrumentalist or string ensemble can be coordinated (additional fees will apply). The Carillonneur also is available to play the carillon. Arrangements can be made by contacting the Parish Administrator at 633-7800.

SERVICE LEAFLETS

Calvary Episcopal Church does not produce bulletins for weddings. Encourage your loved ones and guests to pay attention to your ceremony, rather than reading a bulletin. If you feel you must have service bulletins, you may design and print them yourself. You may wish to include

- The names of each spouse's parents
- The names of the attendants
- The names and roles of the readers and other participants

AISLE RUNNERS

The use of aisle runners is discouraged. They create logistical problems as well as the possibility of tripping.

NO RICE OR BIRDSEED IS TO BE THROWN.

To make wedding arrangements, contact the Parish Administrator at (716)633-7800 or email general@calvaryepiscopal.net

WEDDING FEE SCHEDULE

Basic Wedding Fees

To hold your date, the church and counseling fees must be submitted. The fees will be deposited one month prior to the wedding.

Fees for the organist and sexton are due one month prior to the wedding.

Pre-Marital Counseling \$500 payable to *The Rev. Robert Harvey*, which includes three pre-marital sessions and a Myers-Briggs Type Indicator Survey and scoring

Church \$300 payable to *Calvary Episcopal Church*

Organist \$200 payable to the organist, which includes consultation

Sexton \$50 payable to the sexton

Optional Additional Services

Fees due one month prior to wedding

Soloist \$100 payable to the soloist

Carillonneur \$75 payable to the carillonneur if the carillon is rung

2 vases Altar Flowers \$100 payable to *Calvary Episcopal Church*

WHAT TO EXPECT WHEN PLANNING YOUR WEDDING AT CALVARY

The couple should plan to meet with The Rev. Robert Harvey three times before the wedding rehearsal, and with the organist once.

SESSION 1 WITH REV. HARVEY

2 hours

Review biographical information (pages 7 & 8) with Fr. Harvey.

If either member of the couple is divorced, bring the original court document of the divorce decree. This is required by the Bishop of the Diocese of WNY.

Discuss First Corinthians 13 and what marriage means.

Homework: Myers Briggs Type Indicator, due at least one week before Session 2

SESSION 2A WITH REV. HARVEY

2 hours

Review Myers Briggs Type Indicator results

SESSION 2B WITH ORGANIST

1 hour

Meet with organist to plan music

SESSION 3 WITH REV. HARVEY

1 ½ hours

Without family members or other wedding party members present, the couple walks through the ceremony with Fr. Harvey. Ideally, this will happen 2-3 months before the wedding.

REHEARSAL

1 hour

Present the Marriage License to Fr. Harvey.

All paperwork is completed.

All attendants, readers, ushers and other participants walk through the ceremony with the couple and Fr. Harvey.

THE WEDDING OF

Names

Date, Time, Location

WEDDING INFORMATION- REGISTER

SPOUSE #1

Full Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____ Cell _____

Email _____

Age _____ Date of Birth _____

Occupation _____

Place of birth- City _____ State _____

Baptized _____ Confirmed _____

In what denomination _____

Number of this marriage _____

Father's Name _____

Mother's First & Maiden Name _____

Parents' Residence _____

SPOUSE #2

Full Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____ Cell _____

Email _____

Age _____ Date of Birth _____

Occupation _____

Place of birth- City _____ State _____

Baptized _____ Confirmed _____

In what denomination _____

Number of this marriage _____

Father's Name _____

Mother's First & Maiden Name _____

Parents' Residence _____

PLANNING THE CEREMONY:

Place: Church _____ Chapel _____ Other _____

Holy Eucharist: ____ yes ____ no

Officiant _____

Names of Witnesses _____

Estimated # attending: _____

Rehearsal day and time: _____

PRAYERS AND OTHER OPTIONS:

Presentation: ____ yes ____ no

Who? _____

Wording: _____

Pray for the "gift and heritage of children"? ____ yes ____ no

PLEASE LET CALVARY KNOW

Calvary will order Altar Flowers: ____ yes ____ no

If yes, flower color preference: _____

Will take flowers _____ Will leave flowers for Sunday _____

Will a dressing room be needed? ____ yes ____ no

Reserved parking signs needed? ____ yes ____ no

READINGS

First Reading (Choose one):

- Genesis 2:4-9, 15-24 (A man cleaves to his wife and they become one flesh)
- Song of Solomon 2:10-13; 8:6-7 (Many waters cannot quench love)
- Tobit 8:5b-8 (*New English Bible*) (That she and I may grow old together)

- Other _____

Read by: _____

Between the Readings, a Psalm, hymn, or anthem may be sung or said.

- Psalm 67
- Psalm 127
- Psalm 128
- No Psalm

- Other _____

Read or led by: _____

Second Reading (Choose one):

- 1 Corinthians 13:1-13 (Love is patient and kind)
- Ephesians 3:14-19 (The Father from whom ever family is named)
- Ephesians 5:1-2, 21-33 (Walk in love, as Christ loved us)
- Colossians 3:12-17 (Love which binds everything together in harmony)
- 1 John 4:7-16 (Let us love one another for love is of God)

Read by: _____

Gospel (Choose one):

- Matthew 5:1-10 (The Beatitudes)
- Matthew 5:13-16 (You are the light...Let your light so shine)
- Matthew 7:21,24-29 (Like a wise man who built his house upon the rock)
- Mark 10:6-9,13-16 (They are no longer two but one)
- John 15:9-12 (Love one another as I have loved you)

Read by clergy

Music

Organist: _____

Soloist: ____ yes ____ no Name: _____

Carillon: ____ yes ____ no Confirmed: _____

Other Musicians: _____

Processionals :

Bridesmaids _____

Bride _____

Hymns, Anthems and Other Music:

Name	Number	Place in Service
1		
2		
3		
4		

RECESSIONAL: _____