



*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 pm or after 5:30 pm. Other days of the week are possible after discussion with the Rector.

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. There are usually 3 or 4 sessions of 1 to 1.5 hours each.

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.

FLOWERS

The family may purchase flowers for the church, or payment may be made to Calvary to order the flowers for the service. Because of the design of the altar and reredos, flowers are not placed on the altar; flowers may be 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.

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 will prepare service leaflets for the ceremony. (Additional fees may apply.) If you would like to design and print your own leaflets, they must first be approved by the Rector.

AISLE CANDLESTICKS

In addition to altar candlesticks, the church makes available (for a fee) candlesticks that attach to the pews, if you wish to use them.

AISLE RUNNERS

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

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.

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 OFFERINGS AND FEE SCHEDULE

It is customary to make an offering to officiating clergy for services in planning and preparation for the wedding. The amount is at the discretion of the family.

Fees:

Church Use \$500 payable to Calvary Church

Sexton \$50 payable to Michael Way

Fees for Optional Services:

Organist \$200 payable to the musician
or
\$250 if the musician is expected at the rehearsal, payable to the musician

Soloist \$75 payable to the soloist

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

Aisle Candles \$60 payable to Calvary Episcopal Church
(if aisle candles are used)

Service leaflets Fee varies depending on size, length, and use of color.

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 _____

CEREMONY:

Place: Church _____ Chapel _____ Other _____

Holy Eucharist: yes _____ no _____

Eucharistic Prayer _____

Officiant _____

Names of Witnesses _____

Eucharistic Ministers needed: yes _____ no _____

Names: _____

Ushers needed: yes _____ no _____

Names: _____

Service Leaflet: prepared by Calvary? _____

Estimated # attending: _____

Rehearsal day and time: _____

READINGS

Read by: _____

First Reading: _____

Psalm: _____

Second Reading: _____

Gospel: _____

PRAYERS AND OTHER OPTIONS:

Presentation: yes _____ no _____

Who? _____

Wording: _____

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

Blessing—First or Second Option (BCP pg.430-1) _____

Register Book at Altar? yes _____ no _____

Music

Organist: _____

Choir: yes____ no____

Soloist: yes____ no____ Name:_____

Carillon: yes____ no____ Confirmed:_____

Other Musicians:_____

Processionals :

Bridesmaids_____

Bride_____

Hymns, Anthems and Other Music:

Name	Number	Place in Service	Graphic for SL?
	1		
	2		
	3		
	4		
	5		

RECESSIONAL: _____

WEDDING PARTY

Parents of the bride: _____

Parents of the groom: _____

Bridesmaids

Groomsmen

Other Participants:

Anyone else to be recognized in service leaflet:

ADMINISTRATIVE

Contact _____ (name) Preferred phone/email _____

of leaflets requested _____ Service Leaflet: prepared by Calvary _____
(if a couple chooses to design and print their own service leaflet, it must be approved by the Rector)

Special Notes: _____

ALTAR GUILD

Notified _____ (name) on _____ (date.)

FLOWERS AND CANDLES

Flowers ordered by: _____

If Calvary, color preference: _____

Cancel flowers for Sunday? yes _____ no _____

Aisle candles: yes _____ no _____

SEXTON

Notified: _____

Dressing room needed? _____

Reserved parking signs needed? _____

Aisle Runner _____

SPECIAL REQUESTS: