

Weddings

at Christ Church Cranbrook



CHRIST CHURCH CRANBROOK

470 Church Road, Bloomfield Hills, MI 48304

Phone: 248.644.5210 | www.christchurchcranbrook.org

Congratulations

We are delighted that you have made the decision to be married at Christ Church Cranbrook and rejoice with you as you begin planning your wedding and preparing for marriage.

This booklet is intended to help with some of the details in planning your service. You should have already met with my Administrative Assistant, Pat Hirvonen, who would have reviewed the contents of this booklet and answered any questions you may have had about your wedding ceremony.

We want to do everything we can to make this occasion a joyful celebration and help you prepare for marriage as husband and wife for the rest of your lives.

Faithfully,
The Clergy at Christ Church Cranbrook

While Christ Church Cranbrook is a beautiful setting for a wedding ceremony, it is not a wedding chapel. It is a community of faith designed to support parishioners on their spiritual journey through Worship, Christian Formation, Pastoral Care and Service. Therefore, we reserve use of the church for weddings of those who meet the following criteria:

- Either the bride or the groom must be a baptized Christian, and
- The bride and/or groom must be active, worshipping members of Christ Church Cranbrook or,
- The bride or groom must have attended Christ Church Cranbrook at an earlier age, or
- Members of the bride's or groom's family must be current contributing and active members.

Divorced people may be remarried in the Episcopal Church with approval from the Bishop. This process requires additional time and will be discussed in your consultation with the clergy.

Please note that by Church (canon) law, application for marriage must be made to the officiant at least three (3) months in advance to give adequate time for premarital preparation.

A Christian Marriage

The Book of Common Prayer calls Christian marriage a “solemn and public covenant between a man and woman in the presence of God.” The purpose of marriage is for mutual joy, help and comfort given to one another and for the procreation of children (if it may be) and their nurture in the knowledge and love of the Lord. The covenant relationship between husband and wife is to mirror the same kind of loyal, unswerving and faithful love which God has for His people, as revealed through Jesus Christ. Therefore, Christian marriage is an exclusive and permanent relationship modeled after Christ’s total self-giving to us.



By being married in the Church, you are making a “faith statement.” You will be stating that you desire to pledge yourselves to each other in marriage before God and in the presence of God’s people. On your wedding day, you will stand before the altar and commit yourselves to each other for the rest of your lives, stating your intention to live your married life within the community of the Church. You will be asking a priest to bless your commitment and asking the congregation to uphold you in prayer. At the marriage service you will also be inviting

Jesus’ life and love to be at the center of your marriage. Your wedding day will mark the beginning of a Christian marriage, blessed by our Lord Jesus Christ, whose grace and love alone will sustain you in your life together.

Therefore, in planning your marriage service, you should begin thinking about the wedding as a public service of worship. Your celebration is a sacred event at which you are married, where other couples also renew their commitment to marriage, and where the Church proclaims and celebrates the gifts of love, fidelity and procreation offered in it.

Weddings at Christ Church Cranbrook will follow the order of service of “The Celebration and Blessing of a Marriage” found in *The Book of Common Prayer*, p.423.

Setting the Date

Weddings are scheduled on Saturdays between 11:00 AM and 3:00 PM and at 7:00 PM. The date and time of the wedding and rehearsal are finalized by the officiating priest in consultation with the Administrative Assistant to the Priest-in-Charge. No changes can be made without clearing them first with the priest and the Administrative Assistant to the Rector. The Library, Parlor and Guild Hall will be reserved for your use one hour and 15 minutes prior to the start of the service and 30 minutes after the service. If you require more time, please check with the church office to determine room availability.

The wedding service takes approximately one half hour to one hour, depending on whether Holy Communion and a Homily are part of the service. It is appropriate and fitting that the solemnization of marriage take place in the context of Holy Communion, but for various reasons, you may elect to have communion at the rehearsal or not at all.

Premarital Preparation

Apart from deciding to follow Jesus Christ as Lord, the most significant decision any of us makes is the decision to get married. To start your marriage off on the right foot, we ask couples getting married at Christ Church Cranbrook to participate in our two-part premarital preparation program.

The Marriage License

A Michigan marriage license should be obtained by the couple from your local county clerk's office. The license and church fees are taken to the Administrative Assistant to the Priest-in-Charge the Monday before the wedding.

Officiating Clergy

A priest from Christ Church Cranbrook will officiate at the rehearsal and wedding ceremony. Clergy from other denominations are welcome to assist at the invitation of the Rector. Episcopal clergy from outside the parish are also welcome to perform marriages. Because it is appropriate for the Rector to invite a guest minister to participate, please provide the name, address, phone number and email address of the visiting clergy to the Rector.

Wedding Coordinator

Once your wedding date has been approved by the clergy, one of our experienced Wedding Coordinators will contact you to determine any special needs you may have, and will serve as your point of contact throughout the process. Please direct any questions you may have to her.

Ceremony Details and Policies

At Christ Church Cranbrook, we want the occasion of your wedding to be a time of great joy. Please note the following guidelines to ensure that your wedding will be a meaningful, sacred event.

Readings -

At least one reading used during the service must be from Holy Scripture; any additional readings must be approved by clergy.

Music -

The prospective bride and groom will need to consult with the Director of Music of Christ Church Cranbrook, preferably three months in advance of the wedding.

As the celebration and blessing of a marriage is a sacramental rite of the church, the music should be chosen to support the worship of God and give thanks for the gift of love made known to us in Jesus Christ. As a guide, music that is appropriate for use during a worship service is suitable for a wedding. All music selections need to be approved by the Music Department.

The Director of Music or a designated substitute will serve as the organist and music coordinator for your service. The Music Department normally contracts the services of experienced and professionally trained musicians. However, assisting musicians and guest soloists may participate in the service music with prior approval from the Music Department.

Christ Church Cranbrook has a 50-bell carillon located in the tower of the church. Our resident carillonneur is usually available to play this instrument before and after the service.

Payment for all musicians is due the Monday before the wedding. Final authority on all matters pertaining to music resides with the Rector.

Altar Flowers and Decorations

For weddings, two flower arrangements, created by members of the church's Flower Guild, are placed on the High Altar. A Flower Guild representative will work with the bride to ensure the flowers compliment the bride's choice of bouquet flowers. Flowers remain on the altar for weekend services and then are taken to parishioners who are ill or unable to attend church. The weekend bulletin will include an acknowledgement that the weekly flowers are in honor of your wedding.

Pew decorations are not permitted. A Flower Guild representative will contact you about altar flowers.

Photographs

Following the ceremony, you are allowed 30 minutes for photographs in the sanctuary. Flash bulbs may be used only during the processional and recessional, and no more than 10 pews from the rear of the nave. Time exposures may be made from the balcony or from the rear of the nave. Photographs also may be taken in the Guild Hall or on the grounds. No pictures may be taken in or near the residences located on the church grounds without consultation with the Rector. No pictures may be taken in the Columbarium. All photographic sessions need to be coordinated with the officiating clergy or the Wedding Coordinator.

For ceremonies held in Saint Dunstan's Chapel, all photographs are taken from the rear of the Chapel. Flashes are taken from the rear left aisle and time exposures are taken from the rear center aisle.

Please submit the name, address and telephone number of the photographer to the Administrative Assistant to the Rector two months prior to the service. The photographer will be informed of these guidelines.

Videotaping

A video camera may be used with permission and guidance from the officiating clergy and the Wedding Coordinator.

Candles

Candles are used on the altar and two candelabras on the altar steps.

Runners

Runners are not used at Christ Church Cranbrook.

Church Facilities

The bride and her attendants may gather in the Library and Parlor before the service. No food or beverage may be served in the Library. The groom, best man, and clergy gather in the Vesting Room at least 15 minutes prior to the service. Smoking is not permitted anywhere in the church or attached buildings. Also, for safety reasons, the throwing of rice, confetti, birdseed, rose petals or glitter is not allowed.

Orders of Service (Bulletins)

Christ Church Cranbrook provides you with bulletins. Please contact Anthony Estes at aestes@christchurchcranbrook.org to discuss your Orders of Service.

Staff Contact Information

Bill Danaher, Rector

248-644-5210, ext. 32 or wdanaher@christchurchcranbrook.org

Joyce Matthews, Senior Associate Rector

248-644-5210, ext. 15 or jmatthews@christchurchcranbrook.org

Manish Dostert, Associate Rector

248-644-5210, ext. 30 or mdostert@christchurchcranbrook.org

Christopher Wells, Director of Music and Organist

248-644-5210, ext. 37 or cwells@christchurchcranbrook.org

Patricia Hirvonen, Administrative Assistant to Rector

248-644-5210, ext. 26 or phirvonen@christchurchcranbrook.org

Anthony Estes, Communications Assistant

248-644-5210, ext. 14 or aestes@chritchurchcranbrook.org

Wedding Coordinators

Judi Mellow

248-705-4346 or judimellow@comcast.net

Tiffany Street

248-910-4544 or tiffanyreneestreet@gmail.com

Eddie Wakevainen

248-892-5003 or wakevainen@macomb.edu

Schedule of Fees

A. Checks payable to Christ Church Cranbrook

Use of Church, Library, Parlor, and Guild Hall	\$ 3300*
or,	
Use of the Chapel, Library, Parlor, and Guild Hall (Includes, Sexton, Altar Guild, and Altar Flowers.)	475*

Subtotal (A): _____

B. Checks **payable to individuals** for services performed

Organist	\$300
(includes one consultation, pre-service music, accompaniment of soloists or instrumentalists, hymns, entrance and exit music)	
Extra rehearsal with wedding party and/or soloists and/or choir \$100 per hour (half-hour minimum fee)	_____
Contracting Fee \$50 per hour (making contact with other professional musicians, soloists, or instruments)	_____
Carillonner : (Includes 15 minutes of bell ringing before inside prelude and 15 minutes after inside postlude)	250
Soloist/Cantor:	200
Full Choir: \$100 per person (4, 8, 12, or 16 voice options)	_____
Other outside musician rates by individual agreement (such as trumpet, bagpipes, violin, etc.)	_____
Wedding Coordinator	150
Clergy Honorarium (placed in Parish Discretionary Account)	300

Subtotal (B): _____

TOTAL (Subtotal A and Subtotal B) \$ _____

*\$3000 of Church fee or \$300 of Chapel fee will be waived if your current year pledge exceeds the usage fee and is paid in full one month prior to wedding.

**All fees are due the Monday prior to the wedding.
Fees are subject to change.**